

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

Date 9/18/03 Label No. 9306628327-US

I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, this paper or fee was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service & that it was addressed for delivery to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 by "Express Mail" Post Office to Addressee" service.

D. Beck
Name (Print)

D. Beck
Signature

Attorney Docket 03235/100M087-US2
(PATENT)

5

**GENE SIGNATURES OF ELECTROSHOCK
THERAPY AND USES THEREOF**

10 1. CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) to U.S. provisional application Serial Nos. 60/411,718; 60/431,882; and 60/479,970 filed on September 18, 2002; December 9, 2002; and June 18, 2003, respectively. The contents of these priority applications are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

15 2. FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to methods and compositions for the diagnosis and treatment of neuropsychiatric disorders, including major depressive disorder (MDD), bipolar affective disorder (BAD), schizophrenia and psychotic depression. More specifically, the invention relates to gene signatures, that are associated with electroshock therapy and are useful for
20 diagnosing and treating such neuropsychiatric disorders.

3. BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Current treatments for the psychiatric depression, such as that associated with major depressive disorder (MDD), bipolar affective disorder (BAD), and psychotic depression,
25 comprise several classes of antidepressant drugs. Unfortunately, many patients with these forms of depression fail to respond to such drug therapies. In such cases, electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) may be the only available treatment. Indeed, ECT does produce a high level of success in patients where other pharmacological treatment regimens have failed.

Psychiatric depression associated with conditions such as major depressive disorder (MDD) and psychotic depression are treated with several class of antidepressant drugs, all of which require several weeks to be effective. Unfortunately, many people do not respond to these drug therapies. In such cases, electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) remains the treatment.

5 Although severe, ECT is recognized as a highly effective and rapid treatment, and it produces a high degree of success in patients where other therapeutic regimens have failed.

Receptor interactions and other pharmacological actions of many chemical antidepressants have been well studied and are characterized to at least some degree. By contrast, the mechanism or mechanisms of ECT remain poorly understood. Molecular effects of electroconvulsive seizure (ECS) in the brains of animals have been studied, as a model for ECT (for a review, see Fochtmann, *Psychopharmacology Bulletin* 1994, 30:321-444). The effects of ECS are diverse, and include increases in levels of neurotransmitters, neuropeptides and synaptic remodeling, including sprouting. *Id.* ECS also affects several brain regions, including the hippocampus, frontal cortex, neostriatum, entorhinal cortex, temporal-parietal cortex, and monoaminergic nuclei that project to these areas. A summary of the effects reported in these regions is provided in a Table, attached as Appendix to this specification (see, Section 8.1, *infra*). These changes include, *inter alia*: increases in tyrosine hydroxylase in the locus coeruleus and diverse monoamine nerve terminal regions (Masserano *et al.*, *Science* 1981, 214:662-665); decreases in β -adrenergic receptors, typically in the dentate gyrus of the hippocampus and in the frontal cortex (Biegon & Israeli, *Eur. J. Pharmacol.* 1986, 123:329-334); and increases of neurotrophic factors which can positively modulate monoaminergic neurotransmission (Altar *et al.*, *J. Neurochem.* 1994, 63:1021-1032; Mamounas *et al.*, *J. Neurosci.* 1995, 15:7929-7939; Martin-Iverson *et al.*, *J. Neurosci.* 1994, 14:1262-1270; Siuciak *et al.*, *Pharmacol. Biochem. Behav.* 1997, 56:131-137). Others have reported that the mRNA for brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) is upregulated in seizures (Isackson *et al.*, *Neuron* 1991, 6:937-948; Nibuya *et al.*, *J. Neurosci.* 1995, 15:7539-7547; Rocamora *et al.*, *Brain Res. Mol. Brain Res.* 1992, 13:27-33).

Yet, the above-mentioned changes as well as those summarized in the Appendix, *infra*, were identified by investigations that examined changes of only very limited numbers of mRNA species in any brain region. No large-scale gene analysis following ECS has been reported. Hendriksen *et al.*, (*Eur. J. Neurosci* 2001, 14:1475-1484) have described measured

changes in the expression of multiple genes in the hippocampus, but only eight days after local seizures induced by electrical stimulation had been terminated by pentobarbital. Lukasiuk *et al.* (*Eur. J. Neurosci.* 2003, 17:271-279) report experiments where hippocampal and temporal lobe expression profiling was conducted in animals subject to amygdala kindling, but only before they developed spontaneous seizures.

* * * * *

The citation and/or discussion of a reference in this section and throughout the specification is provided merely to clarify the description of the present invention and is not an admission that any such reference is “prior art” to the invention described herein.

10

4. SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention overcomes problems, such as those described *supra*, by providing ECS signature genes – *i.e.*, nucleic acids that are differentially expressed in individuals undergoing an ECS treatment or in subjects undergoing electroconvulsive therapy (ECT). Preferred ECS signature genes of the invention are set forth in the tables at the appendix, *infra*. See, in particular, in Sections 8.3-8.5 below.

The invention also provides ECS gene signatures, which represent collections of one or more ECS signature genes and, preferably, expression levels of these genes which are indicative of ECS or ECT. In addition, the invention also provides methods and algorithms for identifying ECS signature genes and for selecting preferred ECS signature genes, *e.g.*, for use in an ECS gene signature.

ECS genes signatures of the invention, and the ECS signature genes they comprise, are useful, *e.g.*, for diagnostic and prognostic methods of identifying people who have or who are susceptible to neuropsychiatric disorders, including *inter alia* major depressive disorder (MDD), bipolar affective disorder (BAD) and psychotic depression. Such methods therefore are also provided and considered a part of the present invention. The invention additionally provides therapeutic methods, which use ECS gene signatures and ECS signature genes to treat, ameliorate or prevent such neuropsychiatric disorders. The invention further comprises screening methods, including MPHTS® methods, that use ECS gene signatures and/or ECS signature genes to identify compounds that are useful in such methods for treating neuropsychiatric disorders.

The methods of the invention include methods for identifying compounds for treating neuropsychiatric disorders, such as schizophrenia, autism, MDD, BAD, schizophrenia and psychotic depression. These methods generally comprise steps of contacting a cell or cells with a test compound, and determining expression of one or more signature genes by the cell or cells. These signature genes typically comprise nucleic acids that hybridize to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:1-152 and the complements thereof. The determined expression of these one or more signature genes is compared to expression of those signature genes in a cell or cell that is not contacted with the test compound. Changes in expression of the one or more signature genes (compared to expression in cells not contacted with the test compound) indicate that the compound is useful for treating the neuropsychiatric disorder.

The invention additionally provides methods for identifying and selecting ECS signature genes. In particular, the invention provides methods for selecting one or more nucleic acids that are indicative of an effective therapy for treating a neuropsychiatric disorder. The method comprises identifying nucleic acids that are differentially expressed in an individual subjected to electroconvulsive seizure (ECS) compared to an individual not subjected to ECS. In various aspects of these methods, the individual may be subjected to either acute ECS or chronic ECS, and the nucleic acids identified by this method are preferably ones expressed in the brain or in a region of the brain (preferably the frontal cortex or the hippocampus). In preferred embodiments, a score value is obtained for each of the identified nucleic acids. The score value is preferably a function of each gene's differential expression in individuals subjected to ECS and can be determined according to an objective method or algorithm, such as the method set forth in Section 8.2 (*infra*) for selecting ECS signature genes that are most informative and therefore most useful for the assays and other methods of this invention.

The invention further provides kits for detecting an ECS gene signature. Kits of the invention generally comprise a plurality of oligonucleotides, each of which is capable of specifically hybridizing to a different ECS signature gene. For example, in preferred embodiments the oligonucleotides in such kits are capable of specifically hybridizing to ECS signature genes selected from the genes set forth in the appendix, *infra* (see, in particular, at Sections 8.3-8.5 below), such as SEQ ID NOS:1-152, as well as homologous and

complementary sequences thereof. Preferred kits of the invention may comprise, for example, oligonucleotide probes that are immobilized on a solid surface or support, such as in an expression array. In other embodiments, kits of the invention may comprise a plurality of oligonucleotide primers, more preferably a plurality of primer pairs, wherein each pair is capable of amplifying a particular ECS signature gene (for example in a PCR reaction). Kits of the invention may additionally comprise oligonucleotide primers that are capable of priming reverse transcription reactions, for generating cDNA from mRNAs of one or more ECS signature genes. In still other embodiments, kits of the invention may contain other reagents including, for example, nucleotides that are detectably labeled (*e.g.*, for detecting the amplification and or hybridization of ECS signature genes), polymerases, and/or buffers.

Preferred kits of the invention comprise oligonucleotides that are capable of specifically hybridizing to at least five, and more preferably to at least 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150 or more signature genes. In other embodiments, a kit of the invention may comprise oligonucleotides that specifically hybridize to a set of ECS signature genes consisting of 150, 140, 130, 120, 110, 100, 90, 80, 70, 60, 50, 45, 40, 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10, 5 or fewer ECS signature genes of the invention.

5. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figures 1A-1D plot the mean abundances of each of the 8,799 probe sets measured with the Affymetrix U34A rodent chip in the frontal cortex or hippocampus of rats exposed to either acute or chronic ECS (y-axes) compared to mean abundances of those same probe sets in a sham control group (x-axes). Genes denoted by white points on each of the plots are ones passed minimum expression restrictions (described in Section 7.1, *infra*) whose expression changed (in ECS rats compared to sham controls) by either of 1.5 or more or of 0.67 or less, and having a p values of less than 0.05. **Figure 1A** plots gene expression levels measured in the frontal cortex of rats exposed to acute ECS compared to sham controls. **Figure 1B** plots gene expression levels measured in the frontal cortex of rats exposed to chronic ECS compared to sham controls. **Figure 1C** plots gene expression levels measured in the hippocampus of rats exposed to acute ECS compared to sham controls, and **Figure 1D** plots gene expression levels measured in the hippocampus of rats exposed to chronic ECS compared to sham controls.

Figure 2 shows a plot of a statistical evaluation demonstrating the effect of sample size on the number of identified gene changes or “hits” -- *i.e.*, measured changes in expression with p-values less than 0.01, regardless of the absolute magnitude of change in expression level. Groups of 2-10 rats were randomly composed from data of gene expression levels in the hippocampus of sham-treated (“sham”) and/or acute ECS-treated (“ECS”) rats. The number of hits was calculated for each microarray analysis of these samples, and the process was repeated 100 times for each sample size. Values plotted in **Figure 2** are mean values \pm 1 standard deviation (SD). In the “mixed vs. mixed” condition, samples were randomly selected from all acute hippocampus samples, regardless of the treatment. The “theoretical chance” number of 40 gene changes is based on a $p < 0.01$ for the 4,000 probes detected in the frontal cortex with at least one present call and a mean abundance of > 100 .

Figure 3 shows a Venn diagram representation of the distribution of changes in 150 unique probe sets (of which 135 represent unique genes) in the frontal cortex and hippocampus after acute and chronic ECS. The total number of genes whose measured expression levels changed in each tissue are indicated in parentheses.

Figures 4A-4D show plots of the measured magnitude in expression levels for genes that were differentially expressed in the frontal cortex or hippocampus of rats treated with either acute or chronic ECS. **Figures 4A** and **4B** plot changes in expression levels measured in the frontal cortex of rats treated with chronic or acute ECS, respectively, compared to sham-treated controls. **Figures 4C** and **4D** plot changes in expression levels measured in the hippocampus of rats treated with chronic and acute ECS, respectively, compared to sham-treated control animals. For each gene whose expression changed ($p < 0.05$) in treated animals compared with sham-treated control animals, the ratio of mean expression in the ECS group over the control group is plotted in order of the magnitude of change. Decreases in the expression level of genes are plotted below the unity line, whereas increases in expression are plotted above the unity line. X-axes in all four plots are aligned and plotted at the same scale so that the width of the graph represents the number of genes affected in each direction.

6. DETAILED DESCRIPTION

To date, the identification of therapeutic compounds to treat neuropsychiatric disorders has depended almost entirely on serendipity. That is to say, effective drugs and other therapies for such disorders have traditionally been discovered by chance and not as the result of any directed systematic screening method. Indeed, the complex polygenetic nature of neuropsychiatric disorders, the subtle structural and cellular changes that they entail, and the difficulties in diagnosing and monitoring these disorders have made traditional drug screening methods extremely difficult if not impracticable. U.S. patent application Publication No.2003/0096264 by Altar *et al.* describes screening methods, referred to in that application as “Multi-Parameter High Throughput Screening” or “MPHTS,” that overcome many of these difficulties and are ideally suited for identifying effective and/or promising therapeutic compounds to treat neuropsychiatric disorders, including schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder (BAD), autism, major depressive disorder (MDD) and psychotic depression to name a few.

Briefly, the MPHTS approach pertains to the combination of data generated from gene expression profiling coupled with methods for the systematic analysis and/or employment of such data. Using the MPHTS methods described herein, large numbers of candidate compounds may be screened (*e.g., in vitro*) to identify ones that are particularly promising (and, as such, most likely to be suitable) for treating a neuropsychiatric disorder *in vivo* (*e.g., in an individual*). For descriptive purposes, these assays comprise at least two tiers. The first tier involves the determination of genes involved in a particular disorder, which is preferably a neuropsychiatric disorder. However, in another embodiment which is actually preferred here, the genes identified may be ones that are associated with a particular model for a neuropsychiatric or other disorder. For instance, the examples *infra* describe experiments that use electroconvulsive seizures (ECS) in rats as a model for electroconvulsive therapy.

The second tier of an MPHTS method involves the implementation of systematic methods to screen test compounds. Such screening methods may be either existing assay platforms that are already known in the art, such as those described in U.S. patent application Publication No. 2003/0096264, or they may be novel assays that are described here for the

As used herein, the term "isolated" means that the referenced material is removed from the environment in which it is normally found. Thus, an isolated biological material can be free of cellular components; *i.e.*, components of the cells in which the material is found or produced. In the case of nucleic acid molecules, an isolated nucleic acid includes a PCR product, an isolated mRNA, a cDNA, or a restriction fragment. In another embodiment, an isolated nucleic acid is preferably excised from the chromosome in which it may be found, and more preferably is no longer joined to non-regulatory, non-coding regions, or to other genes, located upstream or downstream of the gene contained by the isolated nucleic acid molecule when found in the chromosome. In yet another embodiment, the isolated nucleic acid lacks one or more introns. Isolated nucleic acid molecules include sequences inserted into plasmids, cosmids, artificial chromosomes, and the like. Thus, in a specific embodiment, a recombinant nucleic acid is an isolated nucleic acid. An isolated protein may be associated with other proteins or nucleic acids, or both, with which it associates in the cell, or with cellular membranes if it is a membrane-associated protein. An isolated organelle, cell, or tissue is removed from the anatomical site in which it is found in an organism. An isolated material may be, but need not be, purified.

The term "purified" as used herein refers to material that has been isolated under conditions that reduce or eliminate the presence of unrelated materials, *i.e.*, contaminants, including native materials from which the material is obtained. For example, a purified protein is preferably substantially free of other proteins or nucleic acids with which it is associated in a cell; a purified nucleic acid molecule is preferably substantially free of proteins or other unrelated nucleic acid molecules with which it can be found within a cell. As used herein, the term "substantially free" is used operationally, in the context of analytical testing of the material. Preferably, purified material substantially free of contaminants is at least 50% pure; more preferably, at least 90% pure, and more preferably still at least 99% pure. Purity can be evaluated by chromatography, gel electrophoresis, immunoassay, composition analysis, biological assay, and other methods known in the art.

Methods for purification are well-known in the art. For example, nucleic acids can be purified by precipitation, chromatography (including preparative solid phase chromatography, oligonucleotide hybridization, and triple helix chromatography), ultracentrifugation, and other means. Polypeptides and proteins can be purified by various

methods including, without limitation, preparative disc-gel electrophoresis, isoelectric focusing, HPLC, reversed-phase HPLC, gel filtration, ion exchange and partition chromatography, precipitation and salting-out chromatography, extraction, and countercurrent distribution. For some purposes, it is preferable to produce the polypeptide in a recombinant system in which the protein contains an additional sequence tag that facilitates purification, such as, but not limited to, a polyhistidine sequence, or a sequence that specifically binds to an antibody, such as FLAG and GST. The polypeptide can then be purified from a crude lysate of the host cell by chromatography on an appropriate solid-phase matrix. Alternatively, antibodies produced against the protein or against peptides derived therefrom can be used as purification reagents. Cells can be purified by various techniques, including centrifugation, matrix separation (*e.g.*, nylon wool separation), panning and other immunoselection techniques, depletion (*e.g.*, complement depletion of contaminating cells), and cell sorting (*e.g.*, fluorescence activated cell sorting or "FACS"). Other purification methods are possible. A purified material may contain less than about 50%, preferably less than about 75%, and most preferably less than about 90%, of the cellular components with which it was originally associated. The "substantially pure" indicates the highest degree of purity which can be achieved using conventional purification techniques known in the art.

A "sample" as used herein refers to a biological material which can be tested, *e.g.*, for the presence of one or more polypeptide or nucleic acids. For example, in one embodiment, a sample is a sample of nucleic acids from a cell (*e.g.*, mRNA, or nucleic acids derived therefrom) and is tested or analyzed for the presence or absence of certain particular nucleic acid sequences, corresponding to certain genes that may be expressed by the cell. Such samples can be obtained from any source, including tissue, blood and blood cells, including circulating hematopoietic stem cells (for possible detection of protein or nucleic acids), plural effusions, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), ascites fluid, and cell culture.

Non-human animals include, without limitation, laboratory animals such as mice, rats, rabbits, hamsters, guinea pigs, etc.; domestic animals such as dogs and cats; and, farm animals such as sheep, goats, pigs, horses, and cows. A non-human animal of the present invention may be a mammalian or non-mammalian animal; a vertebrate or an invertebrate.

In preferred embodiments, the terms "about" and "approximately" shall generally mean an acceptable degree of error for the quantity measured given the nature or precision of

the measurements. Typical, exemplary degrees of error are within 20 percent (%), preferably within 10%, and more preferably within 5% of a given value or range of values.

Alternatively, and particularly in biological systems, the terms "about" and "approximately" may mean values that are within an order of magnitude, preferably within 5-fold and more preferably within 2-fold of a given value. Numerical quantities given herein are approximate unless stated otherwise, meaning that the term "about" or "approximately" can be inferred when not expressly stated.

The term "molecule" means any distinct or distinguishable structural unit of matter comprising one or more atoms, and includes, for example, polypeptides and polynucleotides.

10 The term "aberrant" or "abnormal", as applied herein refers to an activity or feature which differs from a normal or activity or feature, or to an activity or feature which is within normal variations of a standard value.

For example, an abnormal activity of a gene or protein refers to an activity which differs from the activity of the wild-type or native gene or protein, or which differs from the activity of the gene or protein in a healthy subject. An activity of a gene includes, for 15 instance, the transcriptional activity of the gene which may result from, *e.g.*, an aberrant promoter activity. Such an abnormal transcriptional activity can result, *e.g.*, from one or more mutations in a promoter region, such as in a regulatory element thereof. An abnormal transcriptional activity can also result from a mutation in a transcription factor involved in 20 the control of gene expression.

An activity of a protein can be aberrant because it is stronger than the activity of its native counterpart. Alternatively, an activity can be aberrant because it is weaker or absent related to the activity of its native counterpart. An aberrant activity can also be a change in an activity. For example an aberrant protein can interact with a different protein relative to 25 its native counterpart. A cell can have an aberrant activity due to overexpression or underexpression of a gene or protein. An aberrant activity can result, *e.g.*, from a mutation in the gene, which results, *e.g.*, in lower or higher binding affinity of a ligand or substrate to the protein encoded by the mutated gene.

The term "therapeutically effective dose" refers to that amount of a compound or 30 compositions that is sufficient to result in a desired activity.

The phrase "pharmaceutically acceptable" refers to molecular entities and compositions that are physiologically tolerable and do not typically produce an allergic or similar untoward reaction (for example, gastric upset, dizziness and the like) when administered to an individual. Preferably, and particularly where a pharmaceutical composition is used in humans, the term "pharmaceutically acceptable" may mean approved by a regulatory agency (for example, the U.S. Food and Drug Agency) or listed in a generally recognized pharmacopeia for use in animals (for example, the U.S. Pharmacopeia).

The term "carrier" refers to a diluent, adjuvant, excipient, or vehicle with which a compound is administered. Sterile water or aqueous saline solutions and aqueous dextrose and glycerol solutions are preferably employed as carriers, particularly for injectable solutions. Exemplary suitable pharmaceutical carriers are described in "Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences" by E.W. Martin.

The term "polymer" means any substance or compound that is composed of two or more building blocks ('mers') that are repetitively linked together. For example, a "dimer" is a compound in which two building blocks have been joined together; a "trimer" is a compound in which three building blocks have been joined together; *etc.*

The term "polynucleotide" or "nucleic acid molecule" as used herein refers to a polymeric molecule having a backbone that supports bases capable of hydrogen bonding to typical polynucleotides, wherein the polymer backbone presents the bases in a manner to permit such hydrogen bonding in a specific fashion between the polymeric molecule and a typical polynucleotide (*e.g.*, single-stranded DNA). Such bases are typically inosine, adenosine, guanosine, cytosine, uracil and thymidine. Polymeric molecules include "double stranded" and "single stranded" DNA and RNA, as well as backbone modifications thereof (for example, methylphosphonate linkages).

Thus, a "polynucleotide" or "nucleic acid" sequence is a series of nucleotide bases (also called "nucleotides"), generally in DNA and RNA, and means any chain of two or more nucleotides. A nucleotide sequence frequently carries genetic information, including the information used by cellular machinery to make proteins and enzymes. The terms include genomic DNA, cDNA, RNA, any synthetic and genetically manipulated polynucleotide, and both sense and antisense polynucleotides. This includes single- and double-stranded molecules; *i.e.*, DNA-DNA, DNA-RNA, and RNA-RNA hybrids as well as "protein nucleic

envisioned are nucleic acids having morpholino backbone structures (U.S. Pat. No. 5,034,506). In other embodiments, such as the peptide-nucleic acid (PNA) backbone, the phosphodiester backbone of the nucleic acid may be replaced with a polyamide backbone, the bases being bound directly or indirectly to the aza nitrogen atoms of the polyamide backbone (Nielsen *et al.*, Science 254:1497, 1991). Other synthetic nucleic acids may contain substituted sugar moieties comprising one of the following at the 2' position: OH, SH, SCH₃, F, OCN, O(CH₂)_nNH₂ or O(CH₂)_nCH₃ where n is from 1 to about 10; C₁ to C₁₀ lower alkyl, substituted lower alkyl, alkaryl or aralkyl; Cl; Br; CN; CF₃; OCF₃; O-, S-, or N-alkyl; O-, S-, or N-alkenyl; SOCH₃; SO₂CH₃; ONO₂; NO₂; N₃; NH₂; heterocycloalkyl; heterocycloalkaryl; aminoalkylamino; polyalkylamino; substituted silyl; a fluorescein moiety; an RNA cleaving group; a reporter group; an intercalator; a group for improving the pharmacokinetic properties of a nucleic acid; or a group for improving the pharmacodynamic properties of a nucleic acid, and other substituents having similar properties. Nucleic acids may also have sugar mimetics such as cyclobutyls or other carbocyclics in place of the pentofuranosyl group. Nucleotide units having nucleosides other than adenosine, cytidine, guanosine, thymidine and uridine, such as inosine, may be used in an oligonucleotide molecule.

The term "oligonucleotide" refers to a nucleic acid, generally of at least 10, preferably at least 15, and more preferably at least 20 nucleotides, preferably no more than 100 nucleotides, that is hybridizable to a genomic DNA molecule, a cDNA molecule, or an mRNA molecule encoding a gene, mRNA, cDNA, or other nucleic acid of interest. Oligonucleotides can be labeled, *e.g.*, with ³²P-nucleotides or nucleotides to which a label, such as biotin or a fluorescent dye (for example, Cy3 or Cy5) has been covalently conjugated. In one embodiment, a labeled oligonucleotide can be used as a probe to detect the presence of a nucleic acid. In another embodiment, oligonucleotides (one or both of which may be labeled) can be used as PCR primers, either for cloning full length or a fragment of a gene, or to detect the presence of nucleic acids encoding a particular gene product (*e.g.*, to detect the presence of a particular mRNA). In a further embodiment, an oligonucleotide of the invention can form a triple helix. Generally, oligonucleotides are prepared synthetically, preferably on a nucleic acid synthesizer. Accordingly,

oligonucleotides can be prepared with non-naturally occurring phosphoester analog bonds, such as thioester bonds, *etc.*

A "polypeptide" is a chain of chemical building blocks called amino acids that are linked together by chemical bonds called "peptide bonds". The term "protein" refers to polypeptides that contain the amino acid residues encoded by a gene or by a nucleic acid molecule (*e.g.*, an mRNA or a cDNA) transcribed from that gene either directly or indirectly. Optionally, a protein may lack certain amino acid residues that are encoded by a gene or by an mRNA. For example, a gene or mRNA molecule may encode a sequence of amino acid residues on the N-terminus of a protein (*i.e.*, a signal sequence) that is cleaved from, and therefore may not be part of, the final protein. A protein or polypeptide, including an enzyme, may be a "native" or "wild-type", meaning that it occurs in nature; or it may be a "mutant", "variant" or "modified", meaning that it has been made, altered, derived, or is in some way different or changed from a native protein or from another mutant.

A "ligand" is, broadly speaking, any molecule that binds to another molecule. In preferred embodiments, the ligand is either a soluble molecule or the smaller of the two molecule or both. The other molecule is referred to as a "receptor". In preferred embodiments, both a ligand and its receptor are molecules (preferably proteins or polypeptides) produced by cells. Preferably, a ligand is a soluble molecule and the receptor is an integral membrane protein (*i.e.*, a protein expressed on the surface of a cell). The binding of a ligand to its receptor is frequently a step of signal transduction within a cell. Exemplary ligand-receptor interactions include, but are not limited to, binding of a hormone to a hormone receptor (for example, the binding of estrogen to the estrogen receptor) and the binding of a neurotransmitter to a receptor on the surface of a neuron.

"Amplification" of a polynucleotide, as used herein, denotes the use of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) to increase the concentration of a particular DNA sequence within a mixture of DNA sequences. For a description of PCR see Saiki *et al.*, *Science* 1988, 239:487.

"Chemical sequencing" of DNA denotes methods such as that of Maxam and Gilbert (Maxam-Gilbert sequencing; see Maxam & Gilbert, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 1977, 74:560), in which DNA is cleaved using individual base-specific reactions.

"Enzymatic sequencing" of DNA denotes methods such as that of Sanger (Sanger *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 1977, 74:5463) and variations thereof well known in the art, in a single-stranded DNA is copied and randomly terminated using DNA polymerase.

A "gene" is a sequence of nucleotides which code for a functional "gene product".

5 Generally, a gene product is a functional protein. However, a gene product can also be another type of molecule in a cell, such as an RNA (*e.g.*, a tRNA or a rRNA). For the purposes of the present invention, a gene product also refers to an mRNA sequence which may be found in a cell. For example, measuring gene expression levels according to the invention may correspond to measuring mRNA levels. A gene may also comprise regulatory
10 (*i.e.*, non-coding) sequences as well as coding sequences. Exemplary regulatory sequences include promoter sequences, which determine, for example, the conditions under which the gene is expressed. The transcribed region of the gene may also include untranslated regions including introns, a 5'-untranslated region (5'-UTR) and a 3'-untranslated region (3'-UTR).

A "coding sequence" or a sequence "encoding" an expression product, such as a
15 RNA, polypeptide, protein or enzyme, is a nucleotide sequence that, when expressed, results in the production of that RNA, polypeptide, protein or enzyme; *i.e.*, the nucleotide sequence "encodes" that RNA or it encodes the amino acid sequence for that polypeptide, protein or enzyme.

A "promoter sequence" is a DNA regulatory region capable of binding RNA
20 polymerase in a cell and initiating transcription of a downstream (3' direction) coding sequence. For purposes of defining the present invention, the promoter sequence is bounded at its 3' terminus by the transcription initiation site and extends upstream (5' direction) to include the minimum number of bases or elements necessary to initiate transcription at levels detectable above background. Within the promoter sequence will be found a transcription
25 initiation site (conveniently found, for example, by mapping with nuclease S1), as well as protein binding domains (consensus sequences) responsible for the binding of RNA polymerase.

A coding sequence is "under the control of" or is "operatively associated with" transcriptional and translational control sequences in a cell when RNA polymerase
30 transcribes the coding sequence into RNA, which is then trans-RNA spliced (if it contains introns) and, if the sequence encodes a protein, is translated into that protein.

The term "express" and "expression" means allowing or causing the information in a gene or DNA sequence to become manifest, for example producing RNA (such as rRNA or mRNA) or a protein by activating the cellular functions involved in transcription and translation of a corresponding gene or DNA sequence. A DNA sequence is expressed by a cell to form an "expression product" such as an RNA (*e.g.*, a mRNA or a rRNA) or a protein. The expression product itself, *e.g.*, the resulting RNA or protein, may also said to be "expressed" by the cell.

The term "heterologous" refers to a combination of elements not naturally occurring. For example, the present invention includes chimeric RNA molecules that comprise an rRNA sequence and a heterologous RNA sequence which is not part of the rRNA sequence. In this context, the heterologous RNA sequence refers to an RNA sequence that is not naturally located within the ribosomal RNA sequence. Alternatively, the heterologous RNA sequence may be naturally located within the ribosomal RNA sequence, but is found at a location in the rRNA sequence where it does not naturally occur. As another example, heterologous DNA refers to DNA that is not naturally located in the cell, or in a chromosomal site of the cell. Preferably, heterologous DNA includes a gene foreign to the cell. A heterologous expression regulatory element is a regulatory element operatively associated with a different gene than the one it is operatively associated with in nature.

The terms "mutant" and "mutation" mean any detectable change in genetic material, *e.g.*, DNA, or any process, mechanism or result of such a change. This includes gene mutations, in which the structure (*e.g.*, DNA sequence) of a gene is altered, any gene or DNA arising from any mutation process, and any expression product (*e.g.*, RNA, protein or enzyme) expressed by a modified gene or DNA sequence. The term "variant" may also be used to indicate a modified or altered gene, DNA sequence, RNA, enzyme, cell, *etc.*; *i.e.*, any kind of mutant. For example, the present invention relates to altered or "chimeric" RNA molecules that comprise an rRNA sequence that is altered by inserting a heterologous RNA sequence that is not naturally part of that sequence or is not naturally located at the position of that rRNA sequence. Such chimeric RNA sequences, as well as DNA and genes that encode them, are also referred to herein as "mutant" sequences.

"Sequence-conservative variants" of a polynucleotide sequence are those in which a change of one or more nucleotides in a given codon position results in no alteration in the amino acid encoded at that position.

"Function-conservative variants" of a polypeptide or polynucleotide are those in which a given amino acid residue in the polypeptide, or the amino acid residue encoded by a codon of the polynucleotide, has been changed or altered without altering the overall conformation and function of the polypeptide. For example, function-conservative variants may include, but are not limited to, replacement of an amino acid with one having similar properties (for example, polarity, hydrogen bonding potential, acidic, basic, hydrophobic, aromatic and the like). Amino acid residues with similar properties are well known in the art. For example, the amino acid residues arginine, histidine and lysine are hydrophilic, basic amino acid residues and may therefore be interchangeable. Similar, the amino acid residue isoleucine, which is a hydrophobic amino acid residue, may be replaced with leucine, methionine or valine. Such changes are expected to have little or no effect on the apparent molecular weight or isoelectric point of the polypeptide. Amino acid residues other than those indicated as conserved may also differ in a protein or enzyme so that the percent protein or amino acid sequence similarity (*e.g.*, percent identity or homology) between any two proteins of similar function may vary and may be, for example, from 70% to 99% as determined according to an alignment scheme such as the Cluster Method, wherein similarity is based on the MEGALIGN algorithm. "Function-conservative variants" of a given polypeptide also include polypeptides that have at least 60% amino acid sequence identity to the given polypeptide as determined, *e.g.*, by the BLAST or FASTA algorithms. Preferably, function-conservative variants of a given polypeptide have at least 75%, more preferably at least 85% and still more preferably at least 90% amino acid sequence identity to the given polypeptide and, preferably, also have the same or substantially similar properties (*e.g.*, of molecular weight and/or isoelectric point) or functions (*e.g.*, biological functions or activities) as the native or parent polypeptide to which it is compared.

The term "homologous", in all its grammatical forms and spelling variations, refers to the relationship between two proteins that possess a "common evolutionary origin", including proteins from superfamilies (*e.g.*, the immunoglobulin superfamily) in the same species of organism, as well as homologous proteins from different species of organism (for example,

useful for simultaneously detecting the presence or absence of a plurality of different target molecules, *e.g.*, in a sample. In preferred embodiments, arrays used in the present invention are "addressable arrays" where each different probe is associated with a particular "address". For example, in preferred embodiments where the probes are immobilized on a surface or a substrate, each different probe of the addressable array may be immobilized at a particular, known location on the surface or substrate. The presence or absence of that probe's target molecule in a sample may therefore be readily determined by simply determining whether a target has bound to that particular location on the surface or substrate.

In various embodiments, an array of the invention may comprise a plurality of different antibodies that each bind to a particular target protein or antigen. More preferably, however, the methods of the invention are practiced using nucleic acid arrays (also referred to herein as "transcript arrays" or "hybridization arrays") that comprise a plurality of nucleic acid probes immobilized on a surface or substrate. The different nucleic acid probes are complementary to, and therefore hybridize, to different target nucleic acid molecules, *e.g.*, in a sample. Thus such probes may be used to simultaneously detect the presence and/or abundance of a plurality of different nucleic acid molecules in a sample, including the expression of a plurality of different genes; *e.g.*, the presence and/or abundance of different mRNA molecules, or of nucleic acid molecules derived therefrom (for example, cDNA or cRNA).

RNA).
20 A nucleic acid molecule is "hybridizable" to another nucleic acid molecule, such as a cDNA, genomic DNA, or RNA, when a single stranded form of the nucleic acid molecule can anneal to the other nucleic acid molecule under the appropriate conditions of temperature and solution ionic strength (*see* Sambrook *et al.*, *supra*). The conditions of temperature and ionic strength determine the "stringency" of the hybridization. For preliminary screening for
25 homologous nucleic acids, low stringency hybridization conditions (*e.g.*, 5x SSC, 0.1% SDS, and no formamide; or 30% formamide, 5x SSC, 0.5% SDS) may be used. Alternatively, hybridizations may also be performed under conditions that are relatively more stringent, such as moderately stringent hybridization conditions (*e.g.*, 40% formamide, with 5x or 6x SCC) or high stringency hybridization conditions (*e.g.*, 50% formamide, 5x or 6x SCC).
30 SCC is a buffer solution commonly used for nucleic acid hybridizations and comprises 0.15 M NaCl, 0.015 M Na-citrate.

30

Hybridization requires that the two nucleic acids contain complementary sequences, although depending on the stringency of the hybridization, mismatches between bases are possible. The appropriate stringency for hybridizing nucleic acids depends on the length of the nucleic acids and the degree of complementation, variables well known in the art. The greater the degree of similarity or homology between two nucleotide sequences, the greater the value of T_m for hybrids of nucleic acids having those sequences. The relative stability (corresponding to higher T_m) of nucleic acid hybridizations decreases in the following order: RNA:RNA, DNA:RNA, DNA:DNA. For hybrids of greater than 100 nucleotides in length, equations for calculating T_m have been derived (*see* Sambrook *et al.*, *supra*, 9.50-9.51). For hybridization with shorter nucleic acids, *i.e.*, oligonucleotides, the position of mismatches becomes more important, and the length of the oligonucleotide determines its specificity (*see* Sambrook *et al.*, *supra*, 11.7-11.8). A minimum length for a hybridizable nucleic acid is at least about 10 nucleotides; preferably at least about 15 nucleotides; and more preferably the length is at least about 20 nucleotides.

Suitable hybridization conditions for oligonucleotides (*e.g.*, for oligonucleotide probes or primers) are typically somewhat different than for full-length nucleic acids (*e.g.*, full-length cDNA), because of the oligonucleotides' lower melting temperature. Because the melting temperature of oligonucleotides will depend on the length of the oligonucleotide sequences involved, suitable hybridization temperatures will vary depending upon the oligonucleotide molecules used. Exemplary temperatures may be 37 °C (for 14-base oligonucleotides), 48 °C (for 17-base oligonucleotides), 55 °C (for 20-base oligonucleotides) and 60 °C (for 23-base oligonucleotides). Exemplary suitable hybridization conditions for oligonucleotides include washing in 6x SSC/0.05% sodium pyrophosphate, or other conditions that afford equivalent levels of hybridization.

Preferably, nucleic acid molecules in the present invention are detected by hybridization to probes of a microarray. Hybridization and wash conditions are therefore preferably chosen so that the probe "specifically binds" or "specifically hybridizes" to a specific target nucleic acid. In other words, the nucleic acid probe preferably hybridizes, duplexes or binds to a target nucleic acid molecules having a complementary nucleotide sequence, but does not hybridize to a nucleic acid molecules having a non-complementary sequence. As used herein, one polynucleotide sequence is considered complementary to

another when, if the shorter of the polynucleotides is less than or equal to about 25 bases, there are no mismatches using standard base-pairing rules. If the shorter of the two polynucleotides is longer than about 25 bases, there is preferably no more than a 5% mismatch. Preferably, the two polynucleotides are perfectly complementary (*i.e.*, no mismatches). In can be easily demonstrated that particular hybridization conditions are suitable for specific hybridization by carrying out the assay using negative controls. See, for example, Shalon *et al.*, *Genome Research* 1996, 639-645; and Chee *et al.*, *Science* 1996, 274:610-614.

Optimal hybridization conditions for use with microarrays will depend on the length (*e.g.*, oligonucleotide versus polynucleotide greater than about 200 bases) and type (*e.g.*, RNA, DNA, PNA, *etc.*) of probe and target nucleic acid. General parameters for specific (*i.e.*, stringent) hybridization conditions are described above. For cDNA microarrays, such as those described by Schena *et al.* (*Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 1996, 93:10614), typical hybridization conditions comprise hybridizing in 5x SSC and 0.2% SDS at 65 °C for about four hours, followed by washes at 25 °C in a low stringency wash buffer (for example, 1x SSC and 0.2% SDS), and about 10 minutes washing at 25 °C in a high stringency wash buffer (for example, 0.1x SSC and 0.2% SDS). Useful hybridization conditions are also provided, *e.g.*, in Tijessen, *Hybridization with Nucleic Acid Probes*, Elsevier Sciences Publishers (1996), and Kricka, *Nonisotopic DNA Probe Techniques*, Academic Press, San Diego CA (1992).

The term "expression profile" or "gene signature" refer, generally, to any description or measurement of the genes and/or nucleic acids that are expressed by a cell or organism under particular conditions. For example, an expression profile may be measured under particular conditions of growth, for example at a particular temperature, in the presence or absence of particular growth media, and/or in the presence or absence of particular nutrients. In preferred embodiments, gene signatures may be obtained, *e.g.*, for cells or tissues that are derived from an individual or individuals having a neuropsychiatric disorder. Gene signatures may also be obtained for a cell or organism exposed to one or more particular drugs or other compounds, such as for a cell or organism exposed to a known therapeutic compound (*e.g.*, with a known use for treating a neuropsychiatric disorder) or for a cell or organism exposed to a "test" or "candidate" compound (*e.g.*, as part of a MPHTS assay). An

expression profile or gene signature may comprise a description of particular genes that are expressed by a cell or organism, a description of the level or abundance with which genes are expressed in a cell or organism, or both. Accordingly, the term “signature gene” is used herein to refer to a gene that may be used, either alone or with other genes (*e.g.*, as part of a gene signature) to characterize a particular condition such as the presence or absence of a neuropsychiatric disorder.

Preferably, an expression profile will comprise a list of different mRNA species that are expressed by a cell and their relative abundances. For example, mRNA abundances can be measured using a microarray, as described below. In more preferable embodiments, nucleic acids (*e.g.*, mRNA) expressed by a cell are reversed transcribed into either cDNA or cRNA, and the abundances of the cDNA and/or cRNA molecules are measured.

6.2. Multi-Parameter High Throughput Screening (MPHTS)

MPHTS methods are described in U.S. patent application Publication No. 2003/0096264 by Altar *et al.* Such methods generally comprise the following five elements. The skilled artisan will appreciate, however, that the invention may be practiced omitting one or more of these elements and without executing the recited elements in any particular order. For example, in certain embodiments, some of the below-described elements may be obtained from another source, such as from an online database. The invention may therefore be practiced without necessarily performing each of these elements, *e.g.*, as a separate step in a screening method.

First, gene-signatures are obtained or provided by measuring expression levels for a plurality of genes in cells or tissues derived from an individual having a neuropsychiatric disorder or from a suitable model. For instance, in the Examples, *infra*, electroconvulsive seizures (ECS) induced in rats are used as models for electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) in human patients. Gene signatures are therefore obtained by measuring expression levels for a plurality of genes in the cells or tissues (more specifically in frontal cortex and hippocampus tissues) of animals subjected to ECS. In alternative embodiment, the cells and/or tissues are brain cells or tissues can be derived from human psychiatric patients (for example, in post mortem tissue samples). However, brain and other neuronal cells or tissues from other

species of organisms may also be used, such as from a mouse, a rat, a primate or another species of mammal. Preferably, the organism from which the brain cells or tissue are derived represents an acceptable animal model for a neuropsychiatric disorder. Preferably, the expression levels measured in the cells or tissues are compared to expression levels from normal cells or tissues (*i.e.*, brain cells or tissues from healthy individuals, not affected by a neuropsychiatric disorder) to identify particular genes that are differentially expressed in cells from an individual having a neuropsychiatric disorder compared to one who does not have a neuropsychiatric disorder.

10 *Second*, gene-signatures may also be obtained or provided by measuring expression levels for a plurality of genes in cultured neuronal cells or tissues (*e.g.*, in cultured neurons that are derived from neural stem cells or from other neuronal cell lines). Human neurons and/or neuronal cell lines are particularly preferred. However, the cells may be obtained or derived from any species of organism, particularly a mammalian species such as a mouse, a rat or a primate. Similarly, the cultured neuronal tissues may also be obtained from any species of mammal, such as from a rat, a mouse, a primate or a human.

15 For example, and not by way of limitation, a mouse neuroblastoma cell line may be used in such methods. Such cells are readily available, *e.g.*, from the American Type Culture Collection ("ATCC", Manassas Virginia). See, for example, ATCC Accession No. CRL-20 2263. As another non-limiting example, U.S. provisional patent application serial no. 60/299,066 filed on June 18, 2001 describes the use of rat neuronal cell cultures to evaluate neuropsychiatric drugs. Such cells may also be used in the MPHTS methods of this invention.

25 *Third*, drug signatures may also be obtained or provided by measuring expression levels for a plurality of genes in cultured neuronal cells or tissues that are treated with a therapeutic compound. The cultured cells may be any type of neuronal cell or cell lines described *supra* for obtaining gene-signatures from a cell line. Similarly, any of the types of tissue cultures described, *supra*, may also be used to obtain drug signatures. Preferably, the drug signatures are signatures for compounds that are known to be effective for treating a neuropsychiatric disorder. Exemplary compounds may include valproate, buspirone, lithium,

carbamazepine, clozapine, olanzapine, haloperidol, secretin and vasoactive intestinal polypeptide (VIP), to name a few. Exemplary drug signatures, which were obtained from broth rat and human neuronal cells treated with therapeutic compounds, are provided in the Examples, *infra*. Other drug signatures may be readily obtained by those skilled in the art.

5

Fourth, expression levels for the plurality of genes are obtained or provided in neuronal cells that are contacted with a test compound (referred to here as a “drug candidate”), and these expression levels may then be compared to expression levels from gene signatures obtained for the neuropsychiatric disorder (as described in the first element, *supra*) and/or to drug-signatures obtained the known therapeutic compound (as described in the third element, *supra*). In preferred embodiments, expression levels or “signatures” obtained from a test compound are also compared to expression levels when the cell or cell line is not contacted with the test compound or any other drug (described in the second element, *supra*).

Generally speaking, the “signature” or expression levels obtained when the neuronal cells are contacted with a test compound are compared to the gene signatures of the cells when they are not contacted with any test or therapeutic compound (*i.e.*, the gene signature obtained as element two, described *supra*) to identify changes in the expression level(s) for particular genes. Similarly, the drug-signature (obtained as described, *supra*, for element three) is also compared to the neuronal cell lines gene signature, to identify particular genes whose expression levels change when the cells are contacted with the therapeutic compound. In instances where changes in expression levels when the cells are contacted with the test compound are identical (or at least similar) to changes in expression levels when the cell are contacted with the known therapeutic compound, then the test compound is identified as a candidate compound for treating the neuropsychiatric disorder. Thus, using these screening methods a skilled artisan is able to rapidly and inexpensively identify compounds that are most promising as novel neuropsychiatric drugs, while eliminating compounds that show little promise and/or are unlikely candidates for treating a neuropsychiatric disorder.

In preferred embodiments of the invention, changes in expression levels when the cells are contacted with the test compound may also be compared to gene signatures obtained for the particular neuropsychiatric disorder of interest (*i.e.*, to the gene signatures obtained as

described, *supra*, for the first element). Preferably, a test compound that is identified as a candidate therapeutic compound will alter the expression of "signature gene" in a way that is opposite or contrary to the expression observed in the disorder's gene signature. For example, where a particular gene is expressed at abnormally high levels in cells or tissues from individuals affected by the particular neuropsychiatric disorder (compared to expression levels in cells or tissues from individuals not affected by the disorder), a candidate compound identified in these screening methods will preferably inhibit that gene's expression (*i.e.*, the gene is preferably expressed at lower levels when the cells are contacted with the test compound, compared to its expression when the cell is not contacted with the test compound).

Fifth, as an optional element of the invention, drug candidate or candidate compounds that are identified as described, *supra*, may be further optimized, *e.g.*, to account for individual genetic variability.

As indicated above, the MPHTS assays of the invention are useful as an inexpensive and rapid initial screening to quickly identify compounds that are most promising as neuropsychiatric drugs, while quickly eliminating compounds that show little promise and/or are unlikely candidates for treating a neuropsychiatric disorder. In preferred embodiments, the MPHTS assays are used to identify candidate compounds for treating bipolar affective disorder (BAD), depression, schizophrenia and autism. However, the assays are by no means limited to these particular disorders, and may be readily adapted to identify candidate compounds for treating any neuropsychiatric disorder. Other exemplary, preferred neuropsychiatric disorders for which these assays may be used include anxiety disorders, eating disorders, addictive disorders and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

Classes of compounds that may be identified by such screening assays include, but are not limited to, small molecules (*e.g.*, organic or inorganic molecules which are less than about 2 kd in molecular weight, are more preferably less than about 1 kd in molecular weight, and/or are able to cross the blood-brain barrier or gain entry into an appropriate cell, as well as macromolecules (*e.g.*, molecules greater than about 2 kd in molecular weight). In preferred embodiments, commercially available compound libraries may be purchased and

screened in an MPHTS assay of the invention. Examples of preferred libraries include TOCRIS (Tocris Cookson, Ltd. Avonmouth Bristol, United Kingdom), SIGMA RBI (Sigma Allrich Inc., St. Louis MO), ChemBridge (ChemBridge Corp., San Diego CA), Chemdiv (ChemDiv Inc., San Diego CA) and Prestwick (Prestwick Chemical, Inc., Washington DC),
5 to name a few.

The selection of appropriate small molecule compound concentrations for the treatment of cells *in vitro* or for dosing of animals *in vivo* is preferred to discriminate between physiological and toxicological effects of a given compound. As an initial means for determining the deleterious effects of a compound or set of compounds, cells may be
10 seeded (*e.g.*, in multiple-well plates) and treated with a range of compound concentrations. The compounds' effect (*e.g.*, its cytotoxic or apoptotic effect) may then be gauged, *e.g.*, using commercially available kits and routine methods well known in the art.

Compounds identified by these screening assays may also include peptides and polypeptides. For example, soluble peptides, fusion peptides members of combinatorial
15 libraries (such as ones described by Lam *et al.*, Nature 1991, 354:82-84; and by Houghten *et al.*, Nature 1991, 354:84-86); members of libraries derived by combinatorial chemistry, such as molecular libraries of D- and/or L-configuration amino acids; phosphopeptides, such as members of random or partially degenerate, directed phosphopeptide libraries (see, *e.g.*, Songyang *et al.*, Cell 1993, 72:767-778); antibodies, including but not limited to polyclonal,
20 monoclonal, humanized, anti-idiotypic, chimeric, or single chain antibodies; antibody fragments, including but not limited to FAb, F(ab')₂, FAb expression library fragments and epitope-binding fragments thereof.

The compounds used in such screening assays are also preferably essential pure and free of contaminants which may, themselves, alter or influence gene expression. Compound
25 purity may be assessed by any number of means that are routine in the art, such as LC-MS and NMR spectroscopy. Libraries of test compounds are also preferably biased by using computational selection methods which are routine in the art. Tools for such computational selection, such as Pipeline PilotJ (Scitegic Inc., San Diego, California) are commercially available. The compounds may be assessed using rules such as the "Lipinski criteria" (see,
30 Lipinski *et al.*, *Adv. Drug Deliv. Rev.* 2001, 46:3-26) and/or any other criteria or metrics commonly used in the art.

6.3. Preparation of Neuronal Cell and Tissue Samples

Brain tissue samples. In certain limited embodiments, brain cells and tissues for use
5 in the MPHTS methods of this invention may be obtained from individuals (*e.g.*, from
patients) in a biopsy. However, those skilled in the art will recognize that brain surgeries
permitting a biopsy are relatively rare and primarily involve surgical excisions (*e.g.*, for the
treatment of epilepsy) rather than brain regions relevant to neuropsychiatric disorder such as
schizophrenia or bipolar affective disorder. In certain embodiments, however, useful disease
10 profiles may be obtained from cultured peripheral nervous system neurons, such as
rhinoneuroepithelial cells. Such cells may be readily obtained from a nasal biopsy, and
disease profiles from such cells may be used to identify changes in gene expression that are
associated with neuropsychiatric disorders such as schizophrenia.

In preferred embodiments, brain cells or tissues used in the methods of this invention
15 are instead obtained post-mortem, *e.g.*, from cadavers of individuals who had or exhibited
symptoms of a neuropsychiatric disorder during their lifetime.

Those skilled in the art will readily appreciate that a large number of carefully
collected brain tissue samples should preferably be obtained to assure statistical reliability
(see, for example, Torrey *et al.*, *Schizophr Res.* 2000, 44:151; Bahn *et al.*, *J. Chem.*
20 *Neuroanatomy* 2001, 22:79-94; and Vawter *et al.*, *Brain Res. Bull.* 2001, 55:641-650). This
is particularly desirable where there is considerable heterogeneity in patient age to permit
accounting for age-associated variables (for example, progressive brain degeneration, which
may also occur in schizophrenia). However, smaller samples may be used, *e.g.*, for
preliminary screening assays where statistical reliability may not be as essential. It is also
25 preferable that the samples be matched, *e.g.*, according to the patients' age, sex, cause of
death and post-mortem interval. The brain samples used preferably are not acquired from
cadavers under circumstances that might themselves affect the quality of the cells or tissues
acquired. For example, samples obtained following a prolonged moribund state, a coma,
hypoxia, pyrexia or stroke preferably are not used in MPHTS methods of the invention. A
30 skilled artisan may readily recognize such compromised, ante mortem states, *e.g.*, from the
extent of brain acidosis. Generally, measured postmortem tissue pH values that are below

about 6.4 indicate that the tissue has been subjected to such a compromised ante mortem state and should not be used. In addition, the postmortem tissue pH value is also critical to the integrity of mRNA obtained from the tissue.

It is understood that a reliable psychiatric diagnosis and cause of death should also be obtained or determined for the individual. It is, moreover, additionally preferably to identify factors such as concomitant medical conditions, medications taken during the patient's lifetime (particularly immediately prior to death), surgical treatments (including cancer treatments) and substance abuse for each patient. The hemisphere and region of the brain from which each sample is taken is also preferably noted and recorded.

Generally, samples that have been subject to such conditions as may affect the reliability of gene expression measurements should not be used. However, in many situations the skilled artisan will recognize that such factors may be sufficiently controlled for and the sample, therefore, acceptable for use in MPHTS. In such cases, however, it is preferable and often essential that the samples be appropriately matched. As an example, and not by way of limitation, it is recognized that smoking alters the expression of many genes in the hippocampus, a region of the brain that is also associated with schizophrenia (Wang *et al.*, *Abs. Soc. Neurosci.* 2001, 27). However, the overlap between genes whose expression levels have been reported as altered by those two conditions is believed to be minimal (see, Wang *et al.*, *supra*). Therefore, it may be possible to practice MPHTS methods of the invention using samples from smoking or non-smoking individuals, provided the samples are appropriately matched.

Those skilled in the art will also appreciate that the levels and quality of RNA extracted from post-mortem samples may be influenced by factors such as the post mortem interval (*i.e.*, the time interval between death and RNA extraction), the refrigeration time (*i.e.*, the time interval from death to patient storage in a cold environment), the storage time (*i.e.*, the duration of time during which the cadaver is refrigerated). Accordingly, it is preferably that such factors be appropriately controlled and that the steps of RNA extraction from these tissue samples be as efficient as possible. In particularly preferred embodiments, the brain or tissue samples are unfixed (*i.e.*, are not treated with protein cross-linkers such as formalin) and have not been thawed more than once.

In a preferred embodiment, samples of brain tissue may be obtained, *e.g.*, post-mortem from cadavers of individuals who (during their lifetime) suffered from or exhibited symptoms of a neuropsychiatric disorder. However, single neurons or groups of homogeneous neurons may also be extracted from such cadavers, *e.g.*, by laser capture microdissection (LCM). Using RNA amplification, gene expression profiles may be measured for these single cells as well (see, *e.g.*, Eberwine *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 1992, 89:30130-30134; and Luo *et al.*, *Nature Med.* 1999, 5:117-119). Expression profiles obtained from these cells will therefore be particular for the particular cell types extracted, and may ultimately provide gene expression profiles that are more clearly ascribed to the particular cell population. Such gene profiles will typically be more robust, and therefore preferable, for evaluating a drug response.

Brain cells or tissues obtained from animals may also be used. For example, tissue or samples from animal models for a neuropsychiatric disorder may be used to model disease profiles for that disorder. Alternatively, expression profiles may be obtained from brain cells or tissues obtained from animals treated with a known anti-psychotic drug or with a test compound. In addition, cells from a transgenic animals may be employed, in which one or more genes relevant to a neuropsychiatric disorder have been altered, over-expressed or “knocked-out”. High throughput *in vitro* screening of candidate compounds may then be carried out using neuronal cells obtained or derived from such a transgenic animal.

Neuronal cells. In preferred embodiments, the MPHTS methods of the invention also used cultured cells or cell lines to screen for candidate therapeutic compounds. Preferably, the cells are ones having an expression profile that is typical of neuronal cells or, alternatively, they may be cells which can be manipulated to produce an expression profile typical of neuronal cells. The cells or cell lines used will also, preferably, give rise to reproducible changes in their gene expression profiles when contacted with known antipsychiatric drugs (for example, valproate). In a particularly preferred embodiment, these changes will be opposite changes that are observed in the disease signature. That is to say, in such embodiments, genes (or their homologs) normally expressed at higher levels in the disease signature are preferably expressed at lower levels in cells or cell lines contacted with the known antipsychiatric drug, and *vice-versa*.

In a preferred embodiment, pluripotent neuronal stem cell lines are used in these aspects of the invention. Such cell lines are well known in the art, and methods to induce or enhance the differentiation of such stem cell lines have been described. For example, U.S. Provisional Patent Application Publication Nos. 2003/0082802 A1 and 2003/0013192 A1 both describe methods for inducing differentiation in neuronal stem cells by exposure to chemicals (for example, valproate and buspirone). In other embodiments, such cells may be differentiated, *e.g.*, using antisense strategies and/or routine techniques of molecular biology to develop stable, transfected cell lines. Alternatively, however, cells or cell lines may also be obtained from patients having a neuropsychiatric disorder of interest.

10 A skilled artisan will readily appreciate that cells or cell cultures used in the methods of this invention should be carefully controlled for parameters such as the cell passage number, cell density (*e.g.*, in microplate wells), the method(s) by which cells are dispensed, and growth time after dispensing. It is also preferable to repeat mRNA and/or protein expression levels measured for a cell or cell line under particular conditions, to confirm that
15 the measured levels are reproducible.

6.4. Measuring Gene Expression

MPHTS methods generally, including the particular methods of this invention, may be implemented using any method suitable for measuring changes in the gene expression of a cell or cells. Such methods are well known and routinely used in the art. In preferred
20 embodiments, methods are used that permit the simultaneous measurement of expression for a plurality of genes (*e.g.*, for at least 10, more preferably for at least 100, still more preferably for at least 150). For example, in particularly preferred embodiments expression profiles are measured using "transcript arrays" or "microarrays," as described below. However, any
25 technique that is capable of measuring gene expression may be used and the methods of this invention are not limited to the use of nucleic acid microarrays. For instance, gene expression can also be measured in alternative embodiments by using a reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR).

Systems and kits for implementing such assays are commercially available from a
30 number of suppliers, including Affymetrix (Santa Clara, California), Agilent (Palo Alto, California), Promega (Madison, Wisconsin), Xantho (Research Triangle Park, North

(e.g., cDNAs, mRNAs, cRNAs, polypeptides, and fragments thereof), can be specifically hybridized or bound at a known position. In one embodiment, the microarray is an array in which each position represents a discrete binding site for a product encoded by a gene (e.g., a protein or RNA), and in which binding sites are present for products of most or almost all of the genes in the organism's genome. In a preferred embodiment, the "binding site" (hereinafter, "site") is a nucleic acid or nucleic acid analogue to which a particular cognate cDNA or cRNA can specifically hybridize. The nucleic acid or analogue of the binding site can be, e.g., a synthetic oligomer, a full-length cDNA, a less-than full-length cDNA, or a gene fragment.

Although in a preferred embodiment the microarray contains binding sites for products of all or almost all genes in the target organism's genome, such comprehensiveness is not necessarily required. Usually the microarray will have binding sites corresponding to at least about 50% of the genes in the genome, often at least about 75%, more often at least about 85%, even more often more than about 90%, and most often at least about 99%. Preferably, the microarray has binding sites for genes relevant to the action of a drug of interest. A "gene" is identified as a segment of DNA containing an open reading frame (ORF) of preferably at least 50, 75, or 99 amino acids from which a messenger RNA is transcribed in the organism (e.g., if a single cell) or in some cell in a multicellular organism. The number of genes in a genome can be estimated from the number of mRNAs expressed by the organism, or by extrapolation from a well-characterized portion of the genome. When the genome of the organism of interest has been sequenced, the number of ORFs can be determined and mRNA coding regions identified by analysis of the DNA sequence.

Preparing nucleic acids for microarrays. As noted above, the "binding site" to which a particular cognate cDNA specifically hybridizes is usually a nucleic acid or nucleic acid analogue attached at that binding site. In one embodiment, the binding sites of the microarray are DNA polynucleotides corresponding to at least a portion of each gene in an organism's genome. These DNAs can be obtained by, e.g., polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification of gene segments from genomic DNA, cDNA (e.g., by RT-PCR), or cloned sequences. PCR primers are chosen, based on the known sequence of the genes or cDNA, that result in amplification of unique fragments (i.e. fragments that do not share more than 10

bases of contiguous identical sequence with any other fragment on the microarray).

Computer programs are useful in the design of primers with the required specificity and optimal amplification properties. See, e.g., Oligo version 5.0 (National Biosciences). In the case of binding sites corresponding to very long genes, it will sometimes be desirable to amplify segments near the 3' end of the gene so that when oligo-dT primed cDNA probes are hybridized to the microarray, less-than-full length probes will bind efficiently. Typically each gene fragment on the microarray will be between about 50 bp and about 2000 bp, more typically between about 100 bp and about 1000 bp, and usually between about 300 bp and about 800 bp in length. PCR methods are well known and are described, for example, in Innis *et al.*, eds., 1990, *PCR Protocols: A Guide to Methods and Applications*, Academic Press Inc. San Diego, CA. It will be apparent that computer controlled robotic systems are useful for isolating and amplifying nucleic acids.

An alternative means for generating the nucleic acid for the microarray is by synthesis of synthetic polynucleotides or oligonucleotides, *e.g.*, using N-phosphonate or phosphoramidite chemistries (Froehler *et al.*, *Nucleic Acid Res.* 1986, 14:5399-5407; McBride *et al.*, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1983, 24:245-248). Synthetic sequences are between about 15 and about 500 bases in length, more typically between about 20 and about 50 bases. In some embodiments, synthetic nucleic acids include non-natural bases, *e.g.*, inosine. As noted above, nucleic acid analogues may be used as binding sites for hybridization. An example of a suitable nucleic acid analogue is peptide nucleic acid (see, for example, Egholm *et al.*, *Nature* 1993, 365:566-568. See, also, U.S. Patent No. 5,539,083).

In an alternative embodiment, the binding (hybridization) sites are made from plasmid or phage clones of genes, cDNAs (*e.g.*, expressed sequence tags), or inserts therefrom (Nguyen *et al.*, *Genomics* 1995, 29:207-209). In yet another embodiment, the polynucleotide of the binding sites is RNA.

Attaching nucleic acids to the solid surface. The nucleic acids or analogues are attached to a solid support, which may be made from glass, plastic (e.g., polypropylene, nylon), polyacrylamide, nitrocellulose, or other materials. A preferred method for attaching the nucleic acids to a surface is by printing on glass plates, as is described generally by Schena *et al.*, *Science* 1995, 270:467-470. This method is especially useful for preparing

microarrays of cDNA. See also DeRisi *et al.*, *Nature Genetics* 1996, 14:457-460; Shalon *et al.*, *Genome Res.* 1996, 6:639-645; and Schena *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 1995, 93:10539-11286.

A second preferred method for making microarrays is by making high-density oligonucleotide arrays. Techniques are known for producing arrays containing thousands of oligonucleotides complementary to defined sequences, at defined locations on a surface using photolithographic techniques for synthesis in situ (see, Fodor *et al.*, *Science* 1991, 251:767-773; Pease *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 1994, 91:5022-5026; Lockhart *et al.*, *Nature Biotech.* 1996, 14:1675. See, also, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,578,832; 5,556,752; and 5,510,270) or other methods for rapid synthesis and deposition of defined oligonucleotides (Blanchard *et al.*, *Biosensors & Bioelectronics* 1996, 11:687-90). When these methods are used, oligonucleotides (e.g., 20-mers) of known sequence are synthesized directly on a surface such as a derivatized glass slide. Usually, the array produced is redundant, with several oligonucleotide molecules per RNA. Oligonucleotide probes can be chosen to detect alternatively spliced mRNAs.

Other methods for making microarrays, e.g., by masking (Maskos and Southern, *Nuc. Acids Res.* 1992, 20:1679-1684), may also be used. In principal, any type of array, for example, dot blots on a nylon hybridization membrane (see, Sambrook *et al.*, *Molecular Cloning--A Laboratory Manual* (2nd Ed.), Vol. 1-3, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., 1989), could be used, although, as will be recognized by those of skill in the art, very small arrays will be preferred because hybridization volumes will be smaller.

Generating labeled probes. Methods for preparing total and poly(A)⁺ RNA are well known and are described generally in Sambrook *et al.*, *supra*. In one embodiment, RNA is extracted from cells of the various types of interest in this invention using guanidinium thiocyanate lysis followed by CsCl centrifugation (Chirgwin *et al.*, *Biochemistry* 1979, 18:5294-5299). Poly(A)⁺ RNA is selected by selection with oligo-dT cellulose (see Sambrook *et al.*, *supra*). Cells of interest may include, but are not limited to, wild-type cells, drug-exposed wild-type cells, modified cells, and drug-exposed modified cells.

Labeled cDNA is prepared from mRNA by oligo dT-primed or random-primed reverse transcription, both of which are well known in the art (see, for example, Klug &

complementary nucleic acid sequence. As used herein, one polynucleotide sequence is considered complementary to another when, if the shorter of the polynucleotides is less than or equal to 25 bases, there are no mismatches using standard base-pairing rules or, if the shorter of the polynucleotides is longer than 25 bases, there is no more than a 5% mismatch.

5 Preferably, the polynucleotides are perfectly complementary (no mismatches). It can easily be demonstrated that specific hybridization conditions result in specific hybridization by carrying out a hybridization assay including negative controls (see, e.g., Shalon *et al.*, *supra*; and Chee *et al.*, *supra*).

Optimal hybridization conditions will depend on the length (e.g., oligomer versus
10 polynucleotide greater than 200 bases) and type (e.g., RNA, DNA, PNA) of labeled probe and immobilized polynucleotide or oligonucleotide. General parameters for specific (*i.e.*, stringent) hybridization conditions for nucleic acids are described in the definitions provided in Section 5.1, *supra*. When cDNA microarrays, such as those described by Schena *et al.* are used, typical hybridization conditions are hybridization in 5x SSC plus 0.2% SDS at 65 °C
15 for 4 hours, followed by washes at 25 °C in low stringency wash buffer (e.g., 1x SSC plus 0.2% SDS) followed by 10 minutes at 25 °C in high stringency wash buffer (0.1x SSC plus 0.2% SDS). See, Shena *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 1996, 93:10614). Useful hybridization conditions are also provided in, e.g., Tijessen, 1993, *Hybridization With Nucleic Acid Probes*, Elsevier Science Publishers B.V. See, also, Kricka, 1992, *Nonisotopic*
20 *DNA Probe Techniques*, Academic Press, San Diego, CA.

Signal detection and analysis. When fluorescently labeled probes are used, the fluorescence emissions at each site of a transcript array can be preferably detected by scanning confocal laser microscopy. In one embodiment, a separate scan, using the
25 appropriate excitation line, is carried out for each of the two fluorophores used. Alternatively, a laser can be used that allows simultaneous specimen illumination at wavelengths specific to the two fluorophores and emissions from the two fluorophores can be analyzed simultaneously (see, Shalon *et al.*, *Genome Research* 1996, 6:639-645). In a preferred embodiment, the arrays are scanned with a laser fluorescent scanner with a computer
30 controlled X-Y stage and a microscope objective. Sequential excitation of the two fluorophores is achieved with a multi-line, mixed gas laser and the emitted light is split by

immunohistochemistry and functional assays of the translated protein(s), all of which are well known and routinely used in the art.

6.6. Uses of Gene Signatures in MPHTS

5 Once genes signatures or “efficacy genes” for a particular disorder have been identified and/or selected, they may be readily used, *e.g.*, in screening assays to identify promising therapeutic compounds that may be useful for diagnosing and/or treating such a disorder. In particular, a candidate therapeutic compound may be identified in screening assays of the invention by identifying compounds that produce changes in the expression of
10 signature genes that are similar to the changes observed in the ECS model, demonstrated in the exmples, *infra*. Such changes may be identified qualitatively, but are more preferably identified quantitatively; for example, by assigning a MPHTS “value” for each compound tested in the screening assay.

As an example, and not by way of limitation, such an MPHTS value may simply be
15 the sum of changes in each signature gene’s expression observed for a test compound in the screening assay. Preferably, these changes in the signature genes’ expression levels are normalized as a percentage of the “optimal” change in each gene’s expression. As used here, the change in expression of an signature gene is said to be “optimal” when it is approximately equal to the change in expression associated with a therapeutic benefit.
20 Optionally, the change in each signature gene’s expression can also be weighted, *e.g.*, by the signature gene’s score (as determined, *e.g.*, using the algorithm set forth in Section 8.2, *infra*). The calculation of such a value can be easily represented mathematically by the equation:

$$V = \sum_i \omega_i E_i \quad \text{(Equation 1)}$$

25 In Equation 1, V is the MPHTS “score” calculated for a test compound in an MPHTS assay. E_i is the measured change in the expression of gene i in cells contacted with the test compound compared to the expression in cells that are not contacted with the test compound. As noted above, E_i will preferably be normalized to the “optimal” change associated with a desired therapeutic effect. For example, E_i can be expressed as the percentage or fraction of
30 optimal change. ω_i indicates the score for the signature gene i . In preferred embodiments, ω_i

is obtained or derived from the score value calculated for gene i (e.g., according to the algorithm set forth in Section 8.2) and is converted to a percentage of the average score value for the signature genes that comprise the entire set used for drug screening.

7. EXAMPLES

7. EXAMPLES

The present invention is also described and demonstrated by way of the following examples. However, the use of these and other examples anywhere in the specification is illustrative only and in no way limits the scope and meaning of the invention or of any exemplified term. Likewise, the invention is not limited to any particular preferred embodiments described here. Indeed, many modifications and variations of the invention may be apparent to those skilled in the art upon reading this specification, and such variations can be made without departing the invention in spirit or in scope. The invention is therefore to be limited only by the terms of the appended claims along with the full scope of equivalents to which those claims are entitled.

7.1. Gene Signatures of Electroshock Therapy as Modeled by Rodent Electroconvulsive Seizures

20 7.1.1 Materials and Methods

Subjects. Male, Sprague-Dawley rats (ACE Animals; Boyertwon, PA) were 2-6 months of age and weighted 200-350 g at the start of each experiment. Animals were housed 2 per cage, understandard conditions, including *ad libitum* access to food and water in a 12:12 hour light/dark vivarium.

ECS Delivery. Animals were handled for 3 days prior to the beginning of the experiment for them to become adjusted to the seizure induction area and to application of the ear-clip electrodes. The seizure induction or sham-seizure induction areas consisted of plastic cages with fresh bedding material. Each cage was placed on a lab bench and a pair of electrodes was hung over the top of each cage. One set of electrodes was connected to the ECT Unit (Ugo Basile # 57800, Comerio, Italy) for use with the ECS animals and the other set (for control animals) was disconnected from the ECT unit such that no current could be

delivered. Cage mates were run concurrently: one animal was randomly assigned to the shock group and the other to the control group. Both animals were removed from their home cage and placed in the appropriate testing cage. Each set of ear-clip electrodes were dampened with saline and attached to the deep region of the outer ear. The shock, a square wave pulse (pulse width = 0.7 ms, 50 Hz) of 50 mA (Madsen *et al.*, *Biol. Psychiatry* 2000, 47:1043-1049) was administered for a duration for 1.0 second to provide a tonic phase characterized by extension of all limbs and forward head extension, lasting for 10-15 seconds. Animals, both ECS and control, were returned to their home cage 10 minutes after seizure induction. Acute ECS animals (N = 12) were given a single shock. Chronic ECS animals (N = 12) were given one ECS per day for 10 consecutive days. Control group rats (N = 12 acute and N = 12 chronic) followed this protocol.

Visual observation of behaviors, side effects. Visual observations were sufficient to confirm the presence of clonic-tonic seizures immediately following the shock. Side effects during the post-ictal phase, which lasted about 10 minutes, were best characterized by heightened responsivity to auditory and tactile stimulation and decreased motor activity. General behavioral observations made in the home cage for up to 6 hours post-shock administration revealed sedation but no signs of recurrent seizures.

20 *Brain area dissections.* Animals were sacrificed by decapitation without anesthesia approximately 3-5 hours after the final ECS treatment. The brain was removed from the calvarium and immersed in crushed ice for 3-5 minutes. Coronal slabs of 2 mm thickness were prepared, from which the frontal cortex and hippocampus were dissected. The brain regions were weighed, frozen on dry ice, and stored at -80 °C.

25 *RNA Extraction.* Total RNA was extracted from about 70-100 mg of frozen rat tissue
with 0.7-1.0 ml of TRIzol reagent (Invitrogen; Carlsbad, CA) as per the manufacturer's
instructions. The tissue was homogenized with a Polytron (Fisher) for 30 seconds. The
homogenate was cleared by a 10 minute centrifugation at 10,000 x g, and 0.2 ml of
30 chloroform was added per ml of TRIzol. The samples were vigorously shaken for
20 seconds and incubated on ice for 10 minutes. The aqueous phase was separated by

centrifugation at 10,000 x g for 10 minutes, allowed to precipitate for 10 minutes, and the precipitate collected by centrifugation at 12,000 x g for 10 minutes. The pellet was washed with 70% ethanol collected by a brief centrifugation, air dried, and resuspended in H₂O. The RNA was further purified using an RNeasy column (Qiagen; Valencia, CA). The purified RNA was quantified by a UV spectrophotometer, and RNA quality determined by capillary electrophoresis on an Agilent Bioanalyzer.

Gene expression profiling. RNA (10 µg) was converted to double-stranded cDNA following priming with an oligo-dT-T7 primer (Operon). The resultant cDNA was purified by phenol-chloroform extraction, ethanol-precipitated, and resuspended in H₂O. The purified cDNA was subjected to in vitro transcription using T7 polymerase in the presence of biotinylated UTP and CTP (Enzo Life Sciences, Farmingdale, NY). The resultant aRNA was purified with an RNeasy column (Qiagen, Valencia, CA), eluted in H₂O, and quantified using a UV spectrophotometer. aRNA (15 µg) was fragmented following the Affymetrix protocol. The quality of RNA fragmentation was checked on the Agilent Bioanalyzer, and 30 µl was added to 270 µl of hybridization buffer and hybridized to the Affymetrix U34A Rat Genome GeneChip®. After 16 hours of hybridization at 45 °C the GeneChip was washed, stained, and scanned according to the standard Affymetrix protocol.

Statistical analysis. Each gene on Affymetrix U34A gene chips is represented by one or more of about 8800 “probe sets” – i.e., sets of oligonucleotides that are derived from the mRNA sequence of that particular gene. Following hybridization and scanning, each probe set was assigned a “present” or “absent” call and an overall fluorescent signal intensity as determined by the Affymetrix Microarray Suite Software 5.0 following global normalization. A filtering of all probe sets was conducted to remove those genes that were clearly not expressed in the tissue, and such probe sets were not analyzed. Specifically, a probe set for a particular gene was retained for all samples only if it contained a “present” call for at least one sample, and only if the mean fluorescence intensity for either the control or treatment group was greater than 100. This procedure filtered out about 50% of all probe sets, consistent with the known expression of approximately 40-50% of rat genes within brain tissue. Absent or present calls are assigned by Affymetrix software on the basis of a

comparison between the intensities of perfect oligonucleotide matches and single oligonucleotide mismatches. The finding that mismatch intensities are not significantly lower than those for the perfect match oligonucleotides does not necessarily imply that the gene is not expressed, as it may be a result from cross-hybridization of other mRNA species, other technical artifacts, or measurement noise. Therefore, present calls were counted in a liberal manner to avoid discarding probe sets where there was some indication that the gene may in fact be expressed. The alteration of many genes in more than one tissue or after both durations of ECS, and the confirmation of many gene changes by RT-PCR, confirms that measurements of some genes with relatively few present calls would be detected in independent tissues and by an independent method.

A principal components analysis (PCA) was performed using Partek Pro 2000 software package (Partek, Inc.). The analysis treated arrays as "objects" and probe sets as "variables" to detect outlier arrays. PCA plots mapped the distribution of arrays within a 3-dimensional space defined by the three greatest contributors to the variance in gene expression values. The position of an array on such plot reflects the overall expression profile of the sample as measured by the array. The arrays that appeared as outliers on the plots were removed from further consideration. Such PCA outliers are usually associated with a technical problem, such as marginally acceptable RNA quality, regional blotches in hybridization signals, or weak overall hybridization on the corresponding gene chip. For each of the four experiments, (acute and chronic ECS, frontal cortex and hippocampus), at least seven, but typically nine or all 10, of the rat samples from each control or treatment group were retained for further analysis.

The ability of acute or chronic ECS to alter gene expression versus that of sham-treated controls was determined for each tissue type. The magnitude of expression level change was estimated as the ratio of the means between the treated and control groups. Probe sets were considered as "hits" only when the average normalized signal intensity exceeded 100 in either of the groups, the ratio of means exceeded 1.5 or were less than 0.67 and the p value of the two-tailed Welch t test was less than 0.05.

In a multiple testing setting, the p value of 0.05 does not necessarily mean that the probability of type 1 error is really 0.05, unless the Bonferroni's correction has been applied. Bonferroni's correction was not applied in these experiments, however, because it would

result in many type 2 errors and the loss of most valid hits. The uncorrected p value of a statistical test is therefore useful here primarily as a measure of difference between data sets. According to a recent study (Xu & Li, *Bioinformatics* 2003, 19:1284-1289), a parametric p value may outperform a permutational one as a distance metric. Additionally, the 1.5 ratio of means cut-off used here increased the verification rate of gene expression changes.

GeneSpring® analysis software (Silicon Genetics) was used to evaluate the overlap between the gene changes identified in the four comparisons. Since about 3,500-4,400 genes were present in each sample, a significant number of false positives was expected. To help remove false positives, and also to increase confidence in selecting gene hits for RT-PCR confirmation, each statistically significant gene change was ranked objectively by a biostatistical ECS gene selection algorithm (set forth in the appendix at Section 8.2, *infra*) according to its statistical and biological significance, and by the robustness of experimental change, including whether it was altered in one or both tissues and after acute, chronic, or both ECS durations.

Real-time polymerase chain reaction assay (RT-PCR). Total RNA (2 µg) were subjected to DNase treatment in a 10 µl reaction containing 1 µl 10X DNase I reaction buffer, and 1 µl DNase I (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA). The reaction was carried out at room temperature for 10 minutes. One µl of EDTA (25 mM) and 1 µl of oligo (dT)₁₂₋₁₈ mer (0.5 µg/ml, Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) were added to DNase reaction and heated to 70 °C for 15 minutes in a water bath to simultaneously inactivate the DNase I activity and eliminate RNA secondary structure to allow oligo dT-poly A annealing. The sample was placed on ice for 2 minutes and collected by brief centrifugation. The RNA in the sample was reverse-transcribed into cDNA by the addition of 8 µl of master mix containing 4 µl of 5X first strand buffer, 2 µl DTT (0.1 M), 1 µl dNTP's (10 mM each), and 1 µl SuperScript II (200U/µl) (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA), and incubated at 42 °C for 45 minutes. The RT reaction was diluted 10 fold with dH₂O and stored at 4 °C.

For each specific gene tested, diluted cDNA (5 µl) was added to 45 µl PCR reaction mixture that contained 25 µl of 2X SYBR® Green PCR Master Mix (Applied Biosystems, Warrington, UK) and 25 picomole of each forward and reverse primer. Each sample was

subjected to 40 cycles of Real Time PCR (ABI 7900, Applied Biosystems, Warrington UK) where fluorescence is measured several times during each cycle of 2-step PCR alternating between about 95 °C for 15 seconds and 60 °C for 1 minute. The threshold cycle (Ct), or point at which signal fluorescence exceeds background, for each sample for each gene was compared to a standard curve to determine a relative expression value. The standard curve was generated by real time PCR analysis of five, 10-fold serial dilutions of a cDNA generated from the RNA of rat cortical stem cells. This method allows a relative comparison between samples. The expression value of each gene was normalized to the relative amount of GAPDH expressed in that sample to calculate a relative amount of transcript present for each gene. The normalized expression values for all control and treated samples were averaged and an average fold change determined. A Student's t test was conducted between the normalized relative expression values for each individual control and treated samples to determine statistical relevance.

15 7.1.2 Results

Four sets of microarray hybridizations to evaluate the effects of acute or chronic ECS treatment on gene expression in the frontal cortex and hippocampus. Plots of the mean abundances of each probe set measured with the Affymetrix U34A rodent chip are illustrated in **Figures 1A-1D** the frontal cortex (**Figures 1A and 1B**) and hippocampus (**Figures 1C and 1D**) of rats that with exposed to either acute (**Figures 1A and 1C**) or chronic (**Figures 1B and 1D**) ECS, compared to sham control groups that received no ECS. At gene abundances above 100, each scatter plot of mean intensities displayed minimal skewing about the unity line. The distribution of points was generally quite close to the unity line, and statistically significant outliers (illustrated by white dots in **Figures 1A-1D**) were frequently well outside the main clusters of genes. Principal components analysis (PCS) revealed that the frontal cortex and hippocampus transcriptome segregated into distinct clusters similar to that reported for different human CNS brain regions (Palfreyman *et al.*, *Current Drug Targets* 2002, 1:205-216). Outlier samples in the PCA analysis could be readily distinguished, and either one sample, two samples or no sample group were removed from the statistical analysis so that the final n was 8-10 per group.

Data quality evaluation. In order to first determine the number of samples per group needed to reliably identify differentially expressed genes, subgroups of 2 to 10 samples were randomly created from the sham- or ECS-treated groups (or from these two groups combined) of gene expression data in the acute hippocampus. Welch t tests were performed for all gene changes comparing subgroups within or between the sham control and ECS groups as well as between “mixed” subgroups, and this was repeated for 100 different comparisons. Each time, the number of “hits” passing p value cut-off of 0.01 was counted, and these data are plotted in **Figure 2**. Statistical theory predicted that about 40 genes are expected to appear as hits due to random technical and biological variations from the 3,500 to 4,400 detected genes, independent of any real ECS treatment effect. Comparisons between subgroups of samples drawn from within a group of animals or from the “mixed” animals produced numbers of significant gene changes that were mostly below this theoretical chance level, and gradually approached it with increases in subgroup size, as can be seen from visual inspection of **Figure 2**. In contrast, the number of significantly changed genes in the analysis of sham- versus ECS-treated animals increased steeply from chance level at group size of 2, to 15-fold above chance at group sizes of 10. This analysis demonstrates that there is actually a highly significant effect of the ECS shock treatment on gene expression measured by the microarrays. The analysis also demonstrates that, while greater numbers of animal per group increase statistical power, only 8-10 animals per group are necessary to reliably detect large numbers of changes in gene expression levels.

Identification and ranking of differentially expressed genes. A total of 135 unique genes, represented by more than 200 probe sets, were found to be differentially expressed in ECS-treated rats compared to controls in at least one of the four different ECS experiments. These genes are listed in the Appendix, *infra* (see, in particular, at Section 8.3) along with the Accession number for their nucleotide sequence on the GenBank database. The Table in Section 8.3 also provides the expression ratio and p-value determined for each of these genes in the microarray analysis, as well as the “score” determined using the algorithm set forth at Table 1, *supra*. Many of these genes, whose names are shaded in the table at Section 8.2, have not been previously associated with either ECS or ECT.

A Venn diagram representing the distribution of changes among the 135 genes in different tissues and ECS treatment groups is shown in **Figure 3**. Forty-four genes were identified that had significant differential expression in multiple tissues and/or in multiple ECS treatment groups. The most dramatic response to ECS treatment occurred in the hippocampus, where 87 genes were detected as differentially regulated following a single, acute shock. Chronic ECS treatment resulted in fewer gene changes in the hippocampus (64 compared to 87), about half of which were distinct from those that changes after a single ECS. The frontal cortex was much less responsive than the hippocampus, with 36 genes identified as differentially regulated following acute treatment, and 36 genes identified as differentially regulated by chronic ECS treatment. Twelve genes that were regulated in the same direction in the hippocampus by ECS and following exercise (Molteni *et al.*, *Eur. J. of Neurosci.* 2002, 16:107-116; Tong *et al.*, *Neurobio. of Disease* 2001, 8:1046-1056) are indicated in Section 8.3 by an asterix (*) next to the gene name. A supplemental list of genes with p values less than 0.005 and having differential expressing changes less than 1.5 fold was also identified. These genes are listed separately, *infra*, in Section 8.4 *infra*. As with the genes listed in Section 8.3, many of the genes listed in Section 8.4 have not been previously associated with either ECS or ECT. These genes' names are shaded in the tables at Sections 8.3-8.4.

Many genes are represented by more than one probe set on the Affymetrix RG-34A chip. Among genes exhibiting significant change due to ECS treatment, 13 were identified by multiple probe sets. These genes are indicated in Tables of Sections 8.3 and 8.4 by italicized type in those tables. Five of these thirteen genes were selected to determine if all of the probe sets for each gene were in agreement. The numbers of probe sets reporting significant and co-directional change due to ECS treatments were as follows: five out of seven for BDNF; two out of two for Cox-2; two out of four for Jun, two out of three for TIEG, and 1-2 out of four (depending on the treatment and tissue) for catalase. The remaining five probe sets for BDNF, Jun and TIEG, as well as one of the catalase probe sets, produced only absent calls and/or less than 100 abundance units in all rat brain samples. These findings suggests that some of these probe sets simply failed to measure their target mRNA, and that ECS actually did affect at least four out of these five genes.

Approximately 1,200 RT-PCR assays were conducted with hippocampal or frontal cortex tissues after acute or chronic ECS, focussing on those genes with the largest fold change and the best statistical significance in the microarray analysis. Genes were also selected for confirmation by RT-PCR to provide a representation of various protein classes and for their biological relevance to depression or its treatment. The results of this analysis are presented *infra*, in Section 8.5 of the appendix. Genes were identified with a liberal $p < 0.05$ criteria but required at least a 1.5-fold increase or decrease to be considered significant. The abbreviations “HCA” and “HCC” refer to genes identified in the hippocampus following either acute or chronic ECS treatment, respectively. The abbreviation FCA indicates that a gene was identified in the prefrontal cortex following acute ECS treatment.

A “first pass” validation of the microarray results indicated a 50% validation rate. Principal failures in these experiments were apparently mostly caused by low technical performance of individual primer pairs, as evidenced by a failure of the amplified signal to reach asymptotic intensity levels characteristic of genes that are efficiently amplified. For those primer pairs that failed, a second and unique primer pair was selected from the same region of the transcript to generate an amplicon the same length as the original primer pair. Non-validated genes were retested with the new primer pairs. 80% of these RT-PCR retested genes produced the expected asymptotic signal across their amplification cycles, and validated results obtained in the microarray analysis.

The RT-PCR experiments confirmed statistically significant differential expression for 43 out of the 60 genes tested (*i.e.*, 63%). In many instances, the average magnitude of the change in expression for a given gene was only 30% between the two groups. However, individuals within those different two groups would often differ by a factor of two or more. Hence, the RT-PCR procedure was used to quantify differences between individuals that exceed differences between the different experimental groups.

RT-PCR produces a false negative rate of approximately 30% for any large set of genes that has been found to be significantly changed on a microarray platform. Only a few genes exhibited high, asymptotic intensity levels during RT-PCR while, at the same time, failing to replicate microarray results because of low statistical significance. However, these nevertheless displayed a magnitude and direction of gene abundance change that were similar to those seen with the microarrays. Therefore, it is more likely that greater than 63%, and

possible closer to 80% of the genes detected by microarray analysis of ECS tissues (*i.e.*, in Sections 8.3 and 8.4) represent true positives based on RT-PCR validation. Repeated observations of expression changes within different tissues for these genes, confirmation of the magnitude and direction of expression changes for 63 to 80% of these genes by RT-PCR, and the substantial agreement of many observed changes with other literature findings all confirm that the results reported here are valid.

7.2. Selection of Genes for ECS Gene Signatures

To select differentially expressed genes that are most informative and therefore useful in an ECS signature, *e.g.*, for MPHTS type screening assays of the invention, the genes listed in Sections 8.3 and 8.4, *infra*, were prioritized for overall significance using the algorithm set forth in Section 8.2. This algorithm is based on statistical, biological and experimental considerations that account for factors such as a gene's known relationship (if any) with bipolar affective disorder and/or unipolar major depression – as well as accounting for the magnitude and/or statistical significance (*e.g.*, the p-value) of the gene's differential expression in one or more ECS experiments. The algorithm minimizes biases (for example, favoring genes that change in one particular region or tissue) that are likely to occur when other methods of selection are used. As such, algorithms such as in the one in Section 8.2, *infra*, provide an objective and preferable way to identify informative genes that can be used in an ECS gene signature.

For each gene listed in Sections 8.3-8.4, a numerical value was assigned for the three aspects listed in Section 8.2 – *i.e.*, for statistical considerations (I), for biological considerations (II) and for experimental considerations (III). The numerical value(s) for each consideration were computed as described in Section 8.2. For biological considerations (II) a numerical value was assigned for each gene based on reports from the literature (if available).

The algorithm score thus calculated for each gene is set forth in the far right-hand column of the tables at Sections 8.3-8.4. 18 out of the 20 genes most highly ranked by the algorithm have been identified by prior investigators to change after ECS, whereas none of the 30 most lowly ranked genes have been previously associated with ECS. Yet, prior knowledge about a gene's change in response to ECS accounts for only about 2% of the

algorithm's total score, demonstrating that the algorithm is able to independently prioritize genes according to their known response in ECS. In contrast, ranking genes according to only the level of their expression change and/or its p-value produces a more random distribution of the genes that have been previously associated with ECS.

5

To better identify differentially expressed genes that are particularly preferable, *e.g.*, for use in an ECS gene signature, a biological consideration score (II) was recalculated for each gene – this time using experimental data from homologous genes in human cells and/or tissues. Specifically, expression levels of homologous genes were obtained from
10 “disease signatures” in human tissue samples that had been obtained from individuals diagnosed with a neuropsychiatric disorder. In addition, expression levels of homologous genes in “drug signatures” from neuronal cells or animals treated with neuropsychiatric drugs (*e.g.*, valproate, clozapine, carbamazepine, and lithium) were also considered. Such “drug signatures” and “disease signatures” have been previously described, as have routine
15 methods and techniques by which they can be obtained. See, in particular, U.S. patent application Publication No. 2003/096264 A1.

Homologs and/or orthologs of the rat genes listed in the appendices, *infra*, can be readily identified, for example by their level of sequence identity to the recited rat nucleic acid sequences, or by the level of sequence identity and/or homology to amino acid
20 sequences that they encode. Alternatively, homologs and orthologs (including those from other species, such as humans and mice) can be identified by hybridization under conditions of appropriate stringency, such as those described, *supra*, in Section 6.1. In a preferred embodiment, appropriate homologs and/or orthologs are identified by routine clustering algorithms. For example, the NCBI UniGene database (accessed via the URL
25 <<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/UniGene>>) groups genes into appropriate clusters of homologous sequences from the same and/or different species of organism. See, Schuler, *J. Mol. Med.* 1997, 75(10):694-698; Schuler *et al.*, *Science* 1996, 274:540-546; and Boyuski & Schuler, *Nature Genetics* 1995, 10:369-371.

Section 8.6 below provides a list of genes that are differentially expressed in the ECS
30 experiments (Section 7.1, *supra*) along with the rat, human and mouse UniGene cluster number for each gene and its homologs. The GenBank Accession number for a

representative nucleotide sequence (or fragment thereof) for each gene is also provided. Overlapping expression data for each gene in human tissue, human cells, and mouse/rat tissue is also provided, where available. The column "PGI II" gives the algorithm score for biological considerations (II) calculated using this additional information. The next column ("Groups I, II (Literature) and III") provides algorithm scores computed using biological consideration information from the literature – *i.e.*, the algorithm scores set forth in preceding Sections 8.3 and 8.4. The far right-hand column in Section 8.5 gives the "ECS algorithm score" – *i.e.*, the sum of the original score and PGI II.

The actual number of ECS signature genes used in a particular application (*i.e.*, for a particular "gene signature") may vary and generally depends on the need for additional information afforded by including more signature genes, balanced by considerations such as the cost and/or effort involved in addition additional signature genes, *e.g.*, in a microarray or PCR assay platform. As an example preferred gene signatures of the invention comprise nucleic acids corresponding to five or more of the genes set forth in Sections 8.3-8.5, *infra*. In other embodiments, a gene signature of the invention can comprise nucleic acids corresponding to and/or capable of detecting at least 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150 or more of the signature genes set forth in Sections 8.3-8.5, *infra*.

Preferably, signature genes that are most informative are used. Such genes can be identified, for example, by using an algorithm such as the one set forth in Section 8.2, *infra*, or another objective algorithm that objectively ranks genes for use in an ECS signature. The table set forth at Section 8.5 below, which lists signature genes according to their ECS algorithm score, is therefore particularly useful for selecting useful and preferred genes in an ECS gene signature. Hence, as an example, preferred gene signatures of this invention comprise nucleic acids that correspond to and/or are capable of detecting at least the first 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150 or all of the signature genes list in Sections 8.5 – *i.e.*, nucleic acids corresponding to and/or capable of detecting at least SEQ ID NOS:1-5; 1-10; 1-15; 1-20; 1-25; 1-30; 1-35; 1-40; 1-45; 1-50; 1-60; 1-70; 1-80; 1-90; 1-100; 1-110; 1-120; 1-130; 1-140; 1-150; or 1-152.

Alternatively, a gene signature of the invention may comprise nucleic acids that correspond to and/or are capable of detecting orthologs and/or homologs of these genes. As

noted above, homologos and/or orthologs of the rat genes listed in the appendices, *infra*, can be readily identified, for example by their level of sequence identity to the recited rat nucleic acid sequences, or by the level of sequence identity and/or homology to amino acid sequences that they encode. Alternatively, homologs and orthologs (including those from other species, such as humans and mice) can be identified by hybridization under conditions of appropriate stringency, such as those described, *supra*, in Section 6.1. In a preferred embodiment, appropriate homologs and/or orthologs are identified by routine clustering algorithms. For example, the NCBI UniGene database (accessed via the URL <<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/UniGene>>) groups genes into appropriate clusters of homologous sequences from the same and/or different species of organism. See, Schuler, *J. Mol. Med.* 1997, 75(10):694-698; Schuler *et al.*, *Science* 1996, 274:540-546; and Boyuski & Schuler, *Nature Genetics* 1995, 10:369-371.

As a particular example, and not by way of limitation, the gene signature of the invention can be used, *e.g.*, in detection kits (for example in any of the applications described in Sections 7.3-7.5, below) for detecting one or more signature genes. Examples of such kits include, but are not limited to, microarrays and PCR reaction kits to name a few. Preferred kits will comprise probes and/or primers for amplifying and/or detecting one or more ECS signature genes. Hence, a typical kit of the invention will comprises nucleic acids (preferably oligonucleotides) that specifically hybridize to ECS signature genes of the invention under defined conditions (which will depend on the particular application for which the kit is used, and include hybridization conditions described in this specification *supra*).

Kits of the invention will typically comprise at least one probe or primer which is capable of specifically hybridizing (*e.g.*, under stringent conditions) to an ECS signature gene. Preferred kits comprises a plurality of probes or primers, each capable of specifically hybridizing to a different ECS signature gene. PCR reaction kits will typically comprise a at least one pair of primer (*i.e.*, a primer pair) that is capable of specifically amplifying an ECS signature gene. Hence, a primer pair in such kits will typically include a “forward” primer and a “reverse” primer. Preferred PCR kits of the invention comprise a plurality of primer pairs, each of which is capable of amplifying a particular ECS signature gene by PCR. PCR kits of the invention also include reverse transcription PCR (RT-PCR) kits, that are capable

of converting mRNA from ECS signature genes into cDNA, and then amplifying said cDNA in a PCR reaction. Hence, RT-PCR kits of the invention will also typically comprise at least one primer pair, and may also comprise a “reverse primer,” *i.e.*, an oligonucleotide that is capable of priming the reverse transcription of mRNA from an ECS signature gene.

5 Preferred RT-PCR kits comprise a plurality of primer pairs and reverse primers, which are capable of reverse transcribing and amplifying mRNAs for a plurality of different ECS signature genes.

In some embodiments, the reverse primer is a separate and distinct oligonucleotide that is different from either the forward or reverse primer. More preferably, however, either
10 the forward or reverse primer for amplifying an ECS signature gene is also capable of reverse transcribing mRNA of that ECS signature gene, and so also functions as a reverse transcription primer in an RT-PCR kit.

Kits may contain additional reagents or other components for detecting ECS signature genes, or such additional components may be provided by a user. For example, preferred kits
15 of the invention may contain at least a polymerase enzyme and one or more labeled nucleotides. A kit of the invention may also contain buffer or other reagents.

7.3. Evaluating Patient Treatment Using ECS Gene Signatures

The ECS gene signatures identified herein (*e.g.*, in Sections 8.3-8.5, *infra*) can be
20 used in evaluating the efficacy of a treatment of a patient suffering from depression. In this evaluation, a peripheral blood sample is taken from the patient before the treatment, and at 1 day or 1 week after initiating the treatment. Lymphocytes or other accessible peripheral cell types are isolated, and the level of expression of all genes within these cells, or a subset of genes indicated in Tables 5-7, is then determined by one or more quantitative RNA
25 measuring techniques. For example, the sample can be treated with Trizol reagent and other chemical procedures in order to prepare RNA. Probes and microarrays for the analysis are prepared using methods established for gene expression analysis, such as by any one of the commonly available quantitative mRNA detection methods, *e.g.*, reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) or microarray analysis using commercially available
30 chips. The alteration of gene expression is quantified in the lymphocyte sample(s) and

determined to be either higher or lower than the value obtained in the pre-treatment, baseline sample(s).

Resulting data showing gene changes in the same direction as those obtained in the ECS samples sets indicates indicate that the treatment method is effective in treating depression in the patient, whereas a gene change in the opposite direction indicates that the treatment is less effective for this purpose.

7.4. Use Of ECS Gene Signatures To Identify Therapeutic Compounds

The gene signatures provided in Sections 8.3 – 8.5, *infra*, can be used in screening for
antidepressive agents. In this screening method, a set of genes is selected as those which
change significantly following ECS treatments (see Tables 5-7), and the corresponding
probes are selected by having sequence identity with a significant region of the selected
genes. Methods and procedures that are common to those skilled in the art of quantifying
RNA levels in cells, using, *e.g.*, reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR),
microarray analysis with commercially, high-density cDNA or oligonucleotide-based chips,
or miniarrays that incorporate relatively small (*e.g.*, 10-300) gene sequences corresponding to
the genes listed in Sections 8.3-8.5, are used. Microplates wherein each well contains a fixed
number of cultured neuronal cells from a neuronal, neuroblastoma, astrocytic, or glial cell
line, or a primary neuronal or lymphoblast culture, or another suitable cell culture, are
prepared and used as described in the co-pending U.S. patent application Serial No.
10/175,523, filed June 18, 2002.

The assay is conducted by contacting neuronal cells with a number of test agents, exposing the cells to the test agents for 1-4 days, and the effect on the expression of the select set of genes is evaluated. Resulting data showing gene changes that are in the same direction as those identified following ECS exposure to rats, particularly those summarized in Tables 5-7, for a test agent shows that the agent can be effective in treating or preventing depression.

7.5. Diagnostic Uses of ECS Gene Signatures

30 The gene signatures identified in Section 8.3 – 8.5, *infra*, can also be used for the prognosis or diagnosis of a patient suspected to be suffering from, or at risk for developing, a depression.

In this evaluation, samples of blood or other accessible tissues are obtained before, and at 1, 2, 4 and additional weeks after, treatment. Circulating lymphocytes (white blood cells) or are obtained from the samples and subjected to gene expression analysis using any one of the commonly available quantitative mRNA detection methods, such as reverse
5 transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), microarray analysis using commercially available chips, or other methods. The alteration of gene expression is quantified in post-treatment sample(s) and determined to be either higher or lower than the value obtained in the pre-treatment, baseline sample(s).

Resulting data showing changes in gene expression that are in the opposite direction
10 as gene changes associated with ECS as listed in Tables 5-7 indicates that the patient is suffering from depression or is at risk for developing a depression, whereas the change in the same direction, or absence of a change, indicates a lower risk for depression. In response to an putative antidepressant agent (to determine prognosis of disease following initial baseline assessments), changes in gene expression will have prognostic value as well. In this
15 example of the embodiment of the invention, resulting data that showed changes in gene expression that are in the same direction as gene changes associated with ECS as listed in Tables 5-7 indicate that the therapeutic agent is improving the patients state of depression, whereas the change in the opposite direction, or absence of a change indicates a lower effectiveness of the antidepressant potential of the test agent.

20

8. APPENDIX

8.1. Electroconvulsive Shock (ECS) Therapy and Gene Regulation (Literature Review)

Author, YR	ECS level/dose	Post final shock tissue collection	Altered Genes and Brain region
Kim, et al., <i>Mol Cells</i> 2001, 12:173-177	Single shock	3-24 hours (hrs)	Decreased Inositol 1,4,5-triphosphate receptor 1 (InsP3R1) mRNA in dentate gyrus and CA1
Jensen et al., <i>J Neuroendocrinol</i> 2001, 13:887-893.	14 days		Decreased POMC mRNA in the Hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis
Jang et al., <i>Prog Neuropsychopharmacol Biol Psychiatry</i> 2001, 25:1571-81	Chronic		Adenylate cyclase (AC) isoforms in hippocampus and cerebellum
Kondratyev et al., <i>Brain Res Mol Brain Res</i> 2001, 91:1-13.	Low-sensitivity (minimal) for 7 days		ECS treatment prevented elevation of Bcl-XS mRNA after prolonged seizure activity in hippocampus and rhinal cortex
Koubi et al., <i>Brain Res</i> 2001, 905:161-170	Acute shock	72 hrs	Decreased TH and TpOH protein levels in Locus Cereuleus (LC), Central tegmental area and Raphe Centralis (TpOH only) mRNA changes only in LC; increase TpOH protein levels in Frontal cortex and increase TH protein in hippocampus
Shen et al., <i>Psychiatry Clin Neurosci</i> 2001, 55:75-77	Acute / chronic	9-24 hrs / 1hr – 2 weeks	Decreased Serotonin transporter (5-HTT) mRNA in raphe nucleus
Burnet et al., <i>Eur J Pharmacol</i> 2001, 413:213-219	Single shock / 5 shocks on alternate days		Increased Substance P (tachykinin NK(1)) receptor binding site density, but no mRNA changes in cerebral cortex
Chen et al., <i>Synapse</i> 2001, 39:42-50.	Acute Chronic	2 hrs	Increased GRFalpha-1 and GFRalpha-2 mRNA in dentate gyrus
Cho et al., <i>Exp Mol Med</i> 2000, 32:110-114	Chronic		Differential changes in PDE isoform mRNA in hippocampus and striatum
Lammers et al., <i>Mol Psychiatry</i> 2000, 5:348-388	10 days		Increased D3 receptor mRNA Shell of the nucleus accumbens
Madsen et al., <i>Neuroscience</i> 2000, 98:33-39	14 days	24 hrs	Increased Neuropeptide Y receptor Y1 and Y2 mRNA in CA1 and CA3

Author, YR	ECS level/dose	Post final shock tissue collection	Altered Genes and Brain region
Husum et al., <i>Neuropharmacology</i> 2000, 39:1463-73	10 days		Increased preproNPY mRNA in the CA1 and dentate gyrus
Valentine et al., <i>Brain Res Mol Brain Res</i> 2000, 75:337-341		6 hrs	Increase Fragile X (fmr1) mRNA in dentate gyrus granule cell layer
Burnet et al., <i>Neurosci Lett</i> 1999, 277:79-82	Single, repeated,	Immediately and 3 weeks after last shock	Decreased 5-HT1A receptor mRNA in CA4 Hippocampus and increased in dentate gyrus by single or repeated ECS. Repeated ECS increased cortical 5-HT2A receptor mRNA
Pei et al., <i>Neuroscience</i> 1999, 90:621-627	Single shock / 5 shocks over 10 days		Single shock = Transient reduction of GIRK1 mRNA in dentate gyrus Repeated shock = increase in GIRK2 and GIRK1 mRNA in dentate gyrus
Takahashi et al., <i>J Neurosci</i> 1999, 19:610-618			Increased Phosphodiesterase (PDE) 4 subtypes PDE4A, PDE4B mRNA in prefrontal cortex
Watkins et al., <i>Brain Res Mol Brain Res</i> 1998, 61:108-113	Single and repeated	Levels return to control values after 48hrs	Dentate gyrus: increased mRNA for NMDA subunits NR2A and NR2B; reduced mRNA for metabotropic glutamate receptor mGlu5b
Suda et al., <i>J Neurochem</i> 1998, 71:1554-1563	Acute and repeated		Increase in Phosphodiesterase type IV (PDE IV) mRNA in various brain regions after acute shock; repeated shock increased PDE IV in frontal cortex
Zetterstrom et al., <i>Brain Res Mol Brain Res</i> 1998, 57:106-110	Acute and chronic	6 –48 hrs	BDNF increased with both acute and chronic, both evident at 6 hours, chronic shock effete evident at 48 hours, but acute shock changes gone at 24 hr
Garcia-Garcia et al. <i>Neuroreport</i> 1998, 9:73-77	Acute and chronic		Corticotropin releasing factor (CRF) increased in paraventricular nucleus; propiomelanocortin (POMC) increased in arcuate nucleus and ventromedial nucleus and Proenkephalin (PENK) in nucleus accumbens
Pei et al., <i>Neuroreport</i> 1998, 9:391-394	5 times over 10 days	6 – 24 hrs	Increased mRNA MAP2 in dentate gyrus

Author, YR	ECS level/dose	Post final shock tissue collection	Altered Genes and Brain region
O'Donovan et al., <i>J Neurochem</i> 1998, 70:1241-1248		.5-1 hr and 4 hrs	Increased Erg-1 mRNA in dentate granule cells returned to normal by 4 hr Increased Erg-3 peak at 4 hr
Xing et al., <i>Brain Res Mol Brain Res</i> 1997, 47:251-261	Single	15min-4 hrs	Immediate increase in Nurr1mRNA in dentate gyrus granule cells, peak at 1 hr and return to normal by 4 hr
Wang et al., <i>Neurosci Lett</i> 1996, 226:151-154			Increased Preprotachykinin-A (PPT-A) mRNA in CSF and aqueous humor of eye in RABBIT
Pei et al., <i>Neuroscience</i> 1997, 78:343-350	Acute and chronic	6 hrs, 24 hrs and 3 weeks	Acute: reduced voltage-dependent potassium channel subunits Kv1.2 and Kv4.2 at 6 hrs and normal at 24 hrs in dentate gyrus Chronic: Kv1.2 at 6 hrs and normal at 24 hrs in dentate gyrus Kv4.2 no change at 6 hr elevated at 24 hr
Zachrisson et al., <i>Eur J Pharmacol</i> 1997, 319:191-195			Decrease in preprotachykinin-A mRNA in caudate -putamen and decrease in tachykinin NK1 receptor mRNA positive neurons in Nucleus Accumbens
Zachrisson et al., <i>Brain Res Mol Brain Res</i> 1997, 43:347-350	6 shocks in 2 weeks		Decrease in CCK mRNA in caudate-putamen
Jung et al., <i>Biol Psychiatry</i> 1996, 40:503-507	Single and 20 days	30 min – 90 min	Varying effects in tetradecanoyl phorbol acetate-inducible sequences (TIS) 1, 7, 8, 1, 21 in varying brain regions
McGowan et al., <i>Eur J Pharmacol</i> 1996, 306:249-55	5 shocks over 5 days		G protein subunits Gs alpha mRNA decreased in CA3 and CA1, G9(o) alpha mRNA increased in dentate gyrus and Gi2 alpha mRNA reduced in dentate gyrus an CA3
Woldbye et al., <i>Brain Res</i> 1996, 720:111-119	Single shock	Various times up to 24 hrs	Prominent induction of c-fos mRNA and FOS in dentate gyrus

Author, YR	ECS level/dose	Post final shock tissue collection	Altered Genes and Brain region
Porter et al., <i>Brain Res</i> 1996, 710:97-102	Single and 5 shocks over 10 days		Acute: reduced KA1 mRNA in CA3a increased KA2 MRNA in dentate gyrus. Repeated shock: reduced KA1 mRNA in CA3c and CA3c and CA3a-b; KA2 mRNA increased in dentate gyrus All changes back to normal at 3 weeks post shock
Naylor et al., <i>Brain Res Mol Brain Res</i> 1996, 35:349-353	Repeated shock	24 hrs	Increased mRNA for GluR1 subunit of AMPA receptor
Fitzgerald et al., <i>J Neurochem</i> 1996, 66:429-432	Acute		Increased ICER and CREM isoforms in hippocampus, frontal cortex and cerebellum
Chen, et al., <i>Mol Pharmacol</i> 1995, 48:880-889	Acute and Chronic		FosB and FosB-like proteins
Nibuya et al., <i>J Neurosci</i> 1995, 15:7539-7547	Acute (1d) and Chronic (21d)		Acute: increased BDNF mRNA recovered by 18hr Chronic: decreased induction of BDNF and trkB mRNA, but prolonged their expression in dentate gyrus; in CA1 and CA3, elevated induction of BDNF and trkB Mrna
Smith et al., <i>Psychopharmacology</i> 1995, 120:333-340	Acute & repeated (5 shocks in 10 d)	4 hrs and 24 hrs	Acute and repeated: increased D1 and D2 receptor mRNA at 4 hours but NOT 24 hours in Nucleus Accumbens
Burnet et al., <i>Neuroreport</i> 1995, 6:901-904	5 shocks in 10 days		Increased 5-HT1A and 5-HT2A receptor mRNA in dentate gyrus and neocortex and decreased 5-HT1A in CA3c
Lindfors et al., <i>Neuroscience</i> 1995, 65:661-670		1, 3, 9, 24 hrs	Brain derived neurotrophic factor mRNA and trkB mRNA increased in hippocampus
Dziedzicka-Wasylewska & Rogoz, <i>J Neural Transm Gen Sect</i> 1995, 102:221-228			Increased proenkephalin mRNA in nucleus accumbens
Kim et al., <i>J Neurochem</i> 1994, 63:1991-1994	Single	6 hrs & 12 hrs	6 hrs: decreased Inositol 1,4,5-triphosphate (InsP3) 3-kinase mRNA in dentate gyrus returned to normal at 12 hours

Author, YR	ECS level/dose	Post final shock tissue collection	Altered Genes and Brain region
Brady et al., <i>J Clin Invest</i> 1994, 94:1263-1268	Single and repeated	24 hrs – 8 wk	Single: Increased Corticotropin-releasing hormone (CRH) mRNA in the paraventricular nucleus and TH mRNA in the locus coeruleus at 24 hrs Repeated: some increase that persisted for up to 3 weeks (CRV) and up to 8 weeks (TH)
Passarelli et al., <i>Neurosci Lett</i> 1994, 177:147-150	Single and repeated (7d)	2 hrs	Increased expression of hcs73 in dentate gyrus, CA3 and median habenular nucleus; induced hsp70 mRNA in dentate gyrus (same in single and repeated shock)
Mikkelsen et al., <i>Brain Res Mol Brain Res</i> 1994, 23:317-322	14 days	24 hrs	10x increase in PreproNPY mRNA in dentate gyrus and piriform cortex
Follesa et al., <i>Exp Neurol</i> 1994, 127:37-44	Corneal shock Minimal (0.2s, 50-70mA 3x in 1h) and Maximal (0.2s, 150 mA 3x in 1h)		Min: bFGF mRNA increased in entorhinal cortex and hippocampus Max: increased in bFGF mRNA in entorhinal cortex, hippocampus, olfactory bulb, striatum and cerebellum, increased NGF mRNA in entorhinal cortex and hippocampus
Kragh et al., <i>Exp Brain Res</i> 1994, 98:305-13	10 shocks, 20 shocks, or 36 shocks given on weekdays only	1d, 2d, 30 d	Increased SS-like and NYP-like immunoreactivity 1 and 2 d after last shock in outer part of dentate molecular layer Most pronounced in 36 shock group
Butler et al., <i>J Neurochem</i> 1993, 61:1270-1276	Acute (1 d or 3 d) Chronic (10 d or 14 d)		Chronic: increased 5-HT ₂ receptor mRNA
Passarelli and Orzi <i>Neurosci Lett</i> 1993, 153:197-201	Repeated (7d) and single		Repeated: Increased expression of somatostatin mRNA in hippocampus
Hosoda and Duman, <i>J Neurochem</i> 1993, 60:1335-1343	10d		Down-regulation of beta 1AR mRNA in frontal cortex
Kapu et al., <i>Brain Res Mol Brain Res</i> 1993, 18:121-126			Increased TH mRNA and NPY mRNA in Locus Coeruleus
Pratt et al., <i>Brain Res Bull</i> 1993, 30:691-693		4- 24 hrs	Increased GABA _A receptor subunits alpha 1 and beta 2 mRNA in cerebellum at 4-8 hours, returned to normal at 24 hrs

Author, YR	ECS level/dose	Post final shock tissue collection	Altered Genes and Brain region
Wong et al., <i>Brain Res Mol Brain Res</i> 1992, 13:19-25			Induction of the constitutive hsp72 gene in dentate gyrus
Lindefors et al., <i>Neuroscience</i> 1991, 45:73-80	5 shocks in 10 days		Increased preprocholecystokinin and preprotachykinin-A mRNA in Edinger-Westphal nucleus
Kang et al., <i>Psychopharmacol Bull</i> 1991, 27:359-363	Single	2-8 hrs	Increased Alpha 1 and gamma2 GABA receptor subunit mRNA in cerebellum and hippocampus not at 2 hrs, increased at 4 hours returned to normal at 8 hours in hippocampus
Cole et al., <i>J Neurochem</i> 1990, 55:1920-1927	Single and repeated	15 min. and 4 hrs	15 min: increased zif/268, c-fos, c-jun and jun-B in hippocampus and neocortex and pyriform cortex; all except c-jun returned to normal by 4 hours
Herman, et al., <i>Brain Res</i> 1989, 501:235-246	7 days		Increased CRF mRNA in medial parvocellular paraventricular nucleus (PVN)
Xei et al., <i>Brain Res Mol Brain Res</i> 1989, 6:11-19	Single and repeated (1, 3, 6 days)	0.5, 2, 6, 12 hrs (single); 24 hrs (repeated)	Single: decrease in DYN mRNA at 0.5 hour followed by increase at 6 hrs in hippocampus; EK mRNA increased at 0.5 hour and still high at 12 hrs in entorhinal cortex and hippocampus Repeated: decreased DYN mRNA in hippocampus at 24 hrs elevated DYN mRNA in striatum and hypothalamus. Increased EK mRNA in entorhinal cortex at 6 hrs
Yoshikawa et al., <i>Proc Natl Acad Sci USA</i> 1985, 82:589-593	10d		Increased preproenkephalin mRNA in hypothalamus and striatum

8.2. ECS Gene Selection Algorithm

Three considerations were quantified and summed to prioritize the significance of each gene “hit” as defined in the statistical analysis portion of Section 7.1.1, *infra*.

I. Statistical considerations:

(High score = 27). Score = p value Score + (0.5) Ratio Score + (0.1) Abundance Score

The significance (p value), fold change (ratio), and gene abundance measured in optical intensity units were assigned an integer value as follows:

$$\text{p value Score} = -\log_{10}(\text{p value})$$

$$\text{Ratio Score} = \text{Ratio if the ratio} > 1.5 \text{ or } 1/\text{Ratio if ratio} \leq 1/1.5$$

$$\text{Abundance Score} = \log_{10} (\text{Abundance} / 700)$$

II. Biological considerations:

$$\text{Score} = A (10) + B (8) + C (6) + D (5) + E (2) + F (4) \quad (\text{Max. score} = 35)$$

- A. Gene change is in the opposite direction of mRNA or protein change in human depression or bipolar disorder, or animal model reported in the literature.
- B. Same as A, but gene change is in the same direction.
- C. Gene is known to be changed by effective treatments for human depression or bipolar disorder
- D. Gene is part of a genetic or biochemical pathway known to be associated with human depression, bipolar disorder, or their treatment
- E. Gene has been reported to change following seizures in human or animal studies.
- F. Gene’s human homologue is in a chromosomal hot spot for depression or bipolar disorder as identified by linkage analysis.

III. Experimental considerations:

The experimental results score is based on changes in either or both tissues and after acute, chronic, or both ECS exposures (Max. score = 14)

14	Both tissues after acute and chronic
10	Two tissues, chronic and one tissue acute
8	Both tissues, chronic
6	Two tissues acute, one tissue chronic
4	One tissue chronic, one tissue acute
2	Two tissues, acute
1	One tissue chronic

ECS Algorithm Score	=	2.2(I) + II + III
Maximum score possible	=	2.2(27)+ 35 + 14 = 108

8.3. Fold change (RATIO), significance (p VALUE), and ranking of genes identified as altered in hippocampus (H) and frontal cortex (F) after either acute (A) or chronic (C) ECS exposure

Gene Name	Accession No.	RATIO	p VALUE	Region with biggest change	Other regions with significant change	Algorithm Score
<i>* cyclooxygenase isoform (COX-2)</i>	S67722	7.33	9E-08	HA	All	73.9
putative potassium channel TWIK	AF022819	1.83	9E-04	HC	HA	14.5
<i>Vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF)</i>	AA850734	1.73	8E-05	HA	FA	11.9
<i>* brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) (exon IV)</i>	D10938	4.78	1E-03	HC	All	74.8
metallothionein 1 A	AI102562	2.04	2E-05	HA	FA, HC	62.1
Phosphodiesterase 4B, cAMP-Specific	M25350	1.54	3E-05	FA	FC	29.8
fos-related antigen (fra-2)	AA875032	3.16	8E-05	HA	FA, HC	59.9
neuropeptide Y (NPY)	M15880	2.14	1E-02	HC	FC	54.0
<i>HMG-CoA reductase</i>	X55286	1.48	3E-05	HC	HA, HC	34.0
<i>TGFB inducible early growth response (TIEG1)</i>	AI172476	4.68	1E-03	HC	All	49.0
nuclear orphan receptor HZF-3 (NURR1)	U01146	1.70	1E-05	HA	HC	39.9
Jun B	X54686	2.21	1E-07	FA	HA	59.3
Jun	AI175959	1.84	9E-05	HA	FA, FC	58.8
<i>* NMDAR1 glutamate receptor subunit</i>	U11418	1.59	2E-02	HA		42.0
<i>* Tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase 1 (TIMP1)</i>	AI169327	11.39	2E-06	HA	All	56.9
<i>* Narp</i>	S82649	5.89	7E-09	HC	All	46.4
cytosolic phospholipase A2, group IVA	U38376	1.79	6E-07	HA	HC	48.6
silencer factor B (SF-B)	X60769	1.76	2E-04	HA	All	37.5
<i>Minoxidil sulfotransferase</i>	L19998	0.504	4E-03	HC	HA, FA	25.6
VGF nerve growth factor inducible	M74223	2.35	8E-09	HA	All	46.5
phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase p85 alpha subunit	D64045	2.02	4E-04	FA		19.5
c-fos	X06769	2.22	1E-05	FC	HA, HC	44.9
Catalase	AA926149	0.60	8E-04	HA		44.1
ceruloplasmin (ferroxidase)	L33869	1.81	2E-05	FA	HA, HC	33.4
<i>* nerve growth factor-induced clone C</i>	M92433	2.41	4E-07	HA	HC, FA	42.5
thyrotropin-releasing hormone	M23643	2.01	1E-02	HC		42.4
glial fibrillary acidic protein delta; glial fibrillary acidic protein alpha	AF028784	1.769	2E-04	FA	HA, HC	42.0

8.4. Supplemental list of highly specific genes that change less than 1.5-fold
(Columns are as defined in Section 8.3, *supra*)

Gene	Accession No.	RATIO	p VALUE	Region with lowest p value	Other regions with significant change	Algorithm Score
Bcl-2 associated death agonist (BAD)	AA818072	0.8	3E-05	HA	HC	32
beta-tubulin T beta 15 (aa 1-445)	X03369	1.27	1E-05	HC		8
diacylglycerol kinase	S49760	1.37	4E-04	HC		7
EST 189694 Normalized rat heart	AA800197	0.69	4E-07	HA	HC	11
EST 195383 Normalized rat kidney	AA891580	0.67	2E-05	HC	HA	9
EST 197783 Normalized rat placenta	AA893980	0.76	6E-06	HA	HC	10
GABA-A receptor	X51992	0.79	2E-04	HC	HA	19
Glypican	L02896	1.28	3E-03	HC	FA, FC	13
<i>Growth factor receptor bound protein 2</i>	AA801130	1.23	5E-04	HC	HA, FC	16
Light molecular weight neurofilament	AF031880	1.4	1E-05	HA	HC	24
Neurofilament protein middle (NF-M)	Z12152	1.26	4E-08	HA		23
Neurofilament protein; rat smallest (NF-L)	M25638	1.49	2E-07	HA	HC	22
Neuron glucose transporter	D13962	1.4	7E-05	FA		5
Phospholipase C-beta 1	L14323	0.79	3E-05	HA		24
Phospholipase D gene 2	NM_033299	0.72	1E-04	HA	HC	23
Ras homolog enriched in brain	A1009605	1.42	3E-03	HA	HC	12
SH3-domain GRB2-like 1	A1010110	1.26	1E-05	HA		12
Sodium-dependent neurotransmitter transporter, ventral midbrain	S56141	0.78	1E-05	HA		5
Synapsin 2	M27925	1.34	4E-04	FC		6

8.5. Confirmation of Select Gene Changes by Quantitative RT-PCR

All samples for ECS-treated groups and sham control groups used for microarray studies were analyzed for each gene (n = 8-10 per group).

Frontal Cortex, Acute ECS

UniGene	Name	QRT-PCR		Microarray	
		Ratio	p value	Ratio	p value
Rn.32777	Ceruloplasmin (ferroxidase)	1.35	2.8E-02	1.81	2.0E-05
Rn.10599	Phosphoinositide 3-kinase, regulatory subunit, polypeptide 1	1.59	5.8E-04	2.02	4.0E-03
Rn.6977	Lost on transformation 1	1.90	2.1E-04	1.58	8.0E-05
Rn.1716	Interleukin 6 receptor	2.24	3.1E-08	1.74	3.0E-05

Frontal Cortex, Chronic ECS

UniGene	Name	QRT-PCR		Microarray	
		Ratio	p value	Ratio	p value
Rn.11400	Prostaglandin D synthase	0.61	1.0E-02	0.71	0.03
Rn.7730	Prostaglandin E synthase	2.18	1.5E-02	not on U34A chip	
Rn.506	Synapsin 2	1.29	1.0E-03	1.34	0.00

Hippocampus, Acute ECS

UniGene	Name	QRT-PCR		Microarray	
		Ratio	p value	Ratio	p value
Rn.87787	glutamate receptor, metabotropic 1	0.63	2.5E-06	0.60	3.0E-05
Rn.19727	Hairy and enhancer of split 1 (Drosophila)	0.71	3.3E-02	1.55	4.0E-05
Rn.3812	Normalized rat heart, Bento Soares Rattus sp. cDNA RHEAE07	0.72	1.4E-05	0.65	2.0E-03
Rn.9113	Aldehyde dehydrogenase family 3, subfamily A2	0.86	5.6E-03	0.44	2.0E-05
Rn.3360	Growth factor receptor bound protein 2	1.36	3.1E-02	1.68	6.0E-06
Rn.10815	Neuropilin	1.36	1.2E-04	1.67	2.0E-03
Rn.9797	Fibroblast growth factor receptor 1	1.44	1.6E-03	1.51	2.0E-03
Rn.2045	Protein tyrosine phosphatase type IVA, member 2	1.46	2.0E-03	1.51	3.0E-03
Rn.3546	Neuritin	1.59	4.9E-06	1.56	1.0E-08
Rn.9839	Nuclear receptor subfamily 4, group A, member 2	1.76	6.8E-05	1.70	1.0E-05
Rn.44320	Avian sarcoma virus 17 (v-jun) oncogene homolog	1.80	1.7E-07	1.84	9.0E-05
Rn.859	Ras homolog enriched in brain	1.83	1.0E-07	1.42	1.0E-05
Rn.11183	DNA-damage inducible transcript 3	1.89	1.6E-08	1.78	4.0E-03
Rn.3723	Interferon-related	1.93	1.3E-07	2.01	3.0E-05

	developmental regulator 1				
D82074	Rattus sp. mRNA for BHF-1	1.97	7.0E-04	0.44	6.0E-04
Z21935	R.norvegicus protein kinase rMNK2	2.28	1.6E-02	1.81	2.0E-02
S65091	cyclic AMP-regulated phosphoprotein	2.52	6.7E-05	2.09	7.0E-07
Rn.2398	TGFB inducible early growth response	2.79	1.4E-08	3.62	1.0E-06
Rn.40517	Activity and neurotransmitter-induced early gene protein 4 (ania-4)	3.64	2.9E-10	2.58	6.0E-07
Rn.44369	Prostaglandin-endoperoxide synthase 2	4.03	1.5E-07	7.33	9.0E-08
Rn.25754	Tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase 1	4.71	8.7E-08	11.39	2.0E-06
Rn.11266	Brain derived neurotrophic factor	5.73	2.9E-08	3.85	2.0E-04
S82649	neuronal activity-regulated pentraxin	7.24	2.0E-10	5.89	7.0E-09
Rn.37500	Homer, neuronal immediate early gene, 1	7.42	2.5E-07	6.50	2.0E-07

Hippocampus, Chronic ECS

UniGene	Name	QRT-PCR		Microarray	
		Ratio	p value	Ratio	p value
Rn.964	Insulin-like growth factor II (somatomedin A)	0.33	4.4E-02	0.44	5.0E-02
Rn.11400	Prostaglandin D synthase	0.34	3.9E-02	0.35	6.0E-03
Rn.19727	Hairy and enhancer of split 1 (Drosophila)	1.27	1.8E-02	2.09	5.0E-03
M25638	Rat smallest neurofilament protein (NF-L) mRNA	1.31	2.1E-03		
Rn.7044	Glypican 1	1.33	1.6E-02		
Rn.78188	heme oxygenase-3 (HO-3) mRNA	1.42	2.3E-02	1.61	9.0E-03
Rn.859	Ras homolog enriched in brain	1.54	6.7E-04		
Rn.9756	Protein phosphatase 1, regulatory (inhibitor) subunit 1A	1.58	4.8E-06	1.62	6.0E-03
Rn.3546	Neuritin	1.58	8.6E-05	1.44	8.0E-04
Rn.31799	Pyruvate dehydrogenase phosphatase isoenzyme 1	1.72	1.3E-03	1.83	2.0E-02
Rn.9714	Neuropeptide Y	2.40	5.2E-06	2.14	1.0E-02
Rn.22	Thyrotropin releasing hormone	21.42	1.8E-03	2.01	1.0E-02

8.6. Electroconvulsive seizure (ECS) signature genes

Gene Name (SEQ ID NO.)	Accession No.	Unigene number			PGI Data, Group II: Scores for gene overlaps with:			Algorithm Scores		
		Rat unigene	Human Unigene	Mouse Unigene	Human tissue	Human cells	Mouse + Rat tissue	PGI II	Groups I, II (Literature) and III	ECS Algorithm Score
cyclooxygenase isoform (COX-2) (SEQ ID NO:1)	S67722	Rn.44369	Hs.196384	Mm.3137	8	6	0	14	73.9	87.9
putative potassium channel TWIK (SEQ ID NO:2)	AF022819	Rn.15693	Hs.79351	Mm.10800	50	12	0	62	14.5	76.5
Vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) (SEQ ID NO:3)	AA850734	Rn.1923	Hs.73793	Mm.31540	46	6	12	64	11.9	75.9
brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) (exon IV) (SEQ ID NO:4)	AI030286	Rn.11266	Hs.56023	Mm.1442	0	0	0	0	74.8	74.8
metallothionein 1 A (SEQ ID NO:5)	AI102562	Rn.54397	Mm.1929 91	Mm.192991	0	0	6	6	62.1	68.1
Phosphodiesterase 4B, cAMP-Specific (SEQ ID NO:6)	M25350	Rn.2485	Hs.188	Mm.20181	38	0	0	38	29.8	67.8
fos-related antigen (fra-2) (SEQ ID NO:7)	AA875032	Rn.3212	NA	NA	0	0	6	6	59.9	65.9
HMG-CoA reductase (SEQ ID NO:8)	X55286	Rn.9437	Hs.11899	NA	24	6	0	30	34	64
neuropeptide Y (NPY) (SEQ ID NO:9)	M15880	Rn.9714	Hs.1832	Mm.154796	10	0	0	10	54	64
TGFB inducible early growth response (TIEG1) (SEQ ID NO:10)	AI071299	Rn.2398	Hs.82173	Mm.4292	0	12	0	12	49	61
nuclear orphan receptor HZF-3 (NURR1) (SEQ ID NO:11)	U01146	Rn.88129	Hs.82120	Mm.3507	8	0	12	20	39.9	59.9
FGF receptor-1 (SEQ ID NO:12)	D12498	Rn.9797	Hs.748	Mm.3157	40	12	0	52	7.7	59.7
Jun B (SEQ ID NO:13)	X54686	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	59.3	59.3

Gene Name (SEQ ID NO.)	Accession No.	Unigene number				PGI Data, Group II: Scores for gene overlaps with:				Algorithm Scores		
		Rat unigene	Human Unigene	Mouse Unigene	Human tissue	Human cells	Mouse + Rat tissue	PGI II	Groups I, II (Literature) and III	ECS Algorithm Score		
Jun (SEQ ID NO:14)	AI175959	Rn.44320	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	58.8	58.8		
NMDAR1 glutamate receptor subunit (SEQ ID NO:15)	U11418	Rn.9840	Hs.105	Mm.3292	16	0	0	16	42	58		
Tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase 1 (TIMP1) (SEQ ID NO:16)	AI169327	Rn.25754	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	56.9	56.9		
Narp (SEQ ID NO:17)	S82649	NA	NA	NA	10	0	0	10	46.4	56.4		
cytosolic phospholipase A2, group IVA (SEQ ID NO:18)	U38376	Rn.10162	Hs.211587	Mm.4186	0	6	0	6	48.6	54.6		
silencer factor B (SF-B) (SEQ ID NO:19)	X60769	Rn.6479	Hs.99029	Mm.4863	0	6	6	12	37.5	49.5		
Minoxidil sulfotransferase (SEQ ID NO:20)	L19998	Rn.1507	Hs.142	Mm.17339	10	0	12	22	25.6	47.6		
VGF nerve growth factor inducible (SEQ ID NO:21)	M74223	Rn.9704	Hs.171014	NA	0	0	0	0	46.5	46.5		
phosphatidylinositol 3- kinase p85 alpha subunit (SEQ ID NO:22)	D64045	Rn.10599	Hs.6241	Mm.3058	26	0	0	26	19.5	45.5		
c-fos (SEQ ID NO:23)	X06769	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	44.9	44.9		
Catalase (SEQ ID NO:24)	AA891848	NA	Hs.395771	Mm.4215	0	0	0	0	44.1	44.1		
phospholipase C-beta 1 (SEQ ID NO:25)	L14323	Rn.45523	Hs.41143	Mm.42083	10	0	0	10	34	44		
ceruloplasmin (ferroxidase) (SEQ ID NO:26)	L33869	Rn.32777	Hs.296634	Mm.13787	10	0	0	10	33.4	43.4		
nerve growth factor- induced clone C (SEQ ID NO:27)	M92433	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	42.5	42.5		

Gene Name (SEQ ID NO.)	Accession No.	Unigene number				PGI Data, Group II: Scores for gene overlaps with:				Algorithm Scores		
		Rat unigene	Human Unigene	Mouse Unigene	Human tissue	Human cells	Mouse + Rat tissue	PGI II	Groups I, II (Literature) and III	ECS Algorithm Score		
thyrotropin-releasing hormone (& precursor) (SEQ ID NO:28)	M23643	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	42.4	42.4		
glial fibrillary acidic protein delta; glial fibrillary acidic protein alpha (SEQ ID NO:29)	AF028784	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	42	42		
HES-1 factor (SEQ ID NO:30)	D13417	Rn.19727	Hs.250666	Mm.4451	8	6	0	14	26.7	40.7		
activity and neurotransmitter-induced early gene protein 4 (ania- 4) (SEQ ID NO:31)	AF030089	Rn.40517	Hs.21355	Mm.44752	10	0	6	16	23.8	39.8		
Cytochrome P450 1b1 (SEQ ID NO:32)	A1176856	Rn.10125	Hs.154654	Mm.4443	8	6	0	14	25.3	39.3		
arginine vasopressin (Diabetes insipidus) (SEQ ID NO:33)	M25646	Rn.9976	Hs.89648	Mm.6190	0	0	0	0	39	39		
enhancer-of-split and hairy-related protein 1 (SHARP 1) (SEQ ID NO:34)	AF009329	Rn.10784	Hs.33829	Mm.89873	0	0	6	6	32.5	38.5		
Glutathione S-transferase, theta 2 (SEQ ID NO:35)	A1138143	Rn.87212	NA	NA	0	12	0	12	26.5	38.5		
protein phosphatase 1, regulatory (inhibitor) subunit 1A (SEQ ID NO:36)	J05592	Rn.9756	Hs.76780	Mm.143788	8	0	6	14	22.7	36.7		
interleukin 6 receptor (SEQ ID NO:37)	M58587	Rn.1716	Hs.193400	Mm.2856	8	6	0	14	22.2	36.2		
krox20; (early growth response ?) (SEQ ID NO:38)	U78102	Rn.89235	Hs.1395	Mm.1353	0	0	0	0	36.2	36.2		

Gene Name (SEQ ID NO.)	Accession No.	Unigene number				PGI Data, Group II: Scores for gene overlaps with:				Algorithm Scores		
		Rat unigene	Human Unigene	Mouse Unigene	Human tissue	Human cells	Mouse + Rat tissue	PGI II	Groups I, II (Literature) and III	ECS Algorithm Score		
light molecular weight neurofilament (SEQ ID NO:39)	AF031880	Rn.18568	Hs.211584	Mm.1956	0	6	0	6	30	36		
neurofilament protein middle (NF-M) (SEQ ID NO:40)	Z12152	Rn.10971	Hs.71346	Mm.142140	0	6	0	6	29	35		
S-adenosylmethionine decarboxylase (SEQ ID NO:41)	A1008131	Rn.29949	Hs.262476	Mm.7880	10	0	0	10	24.8	34.8		
ets variant gene 3 (SEQ ID NO:42)	AA859750	Rn.7937	NA	NA	0	0	6	6	28.5	34.5		
neural receptor protein- tyrosine kinase (TrkB) (SEQ ID NO:43)	M55291	Rn.11246	Hs.47860	Mm.3993	8	6	0	14	20.4	34.4		
neurofilament protein; rat smallest (NF-L) (SEQ ID NO:44)	M25638	Rn.18568	Hs.211584	Mm.1956	0	6	0	6	28	34		
Vesl (SEQ ID NO:45)	AB003726	Rn.37500	NA	NA		0	0	0	33.9	33.9		
pyruvate dehydrogenase phosphatase isoenzyme 1 (SEQ ID NO:46)	AF062740	Rn.31799	Hs.22265	NA	16	0	0	16	17.6	33.6		
EST195957 (Mad4 homolog) (SEQ ID NO:47)	AA892154	Rn.3279	NA	NA	0	0	6	6	27.2	33.2		
MHC class 1b RT1.S3 (SEQ ID NO:48)	A1235890	Rn.40130	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	32.2	32.2		
Bad: bcl-2 associated death agonist (SEQ ID NO:49)	AA818072	Rn.36696	Hs.76366	Mm.4387	0	0	0	0	32	32		
Growth factor receptor bound protein 2 (GRB2) (SEQ ID NO:50)	A170776	Rn.3360	Hs.381152	Mm.6900	0	0	0	0	32	32		
Growth factor receptor bound protein 2 (GRB2) (SEQ ID NO:51)	AA801130	Rn.3360	Hs.381152	Mm.6900	0	0	0	0	32	32		

Gene Name (SEQ ID NO.)	Accession No.	Unigene number				PGI Data, Group II: Scores for gene overlaps with:				Algorithm Scores			
		Rat unigene	Human Unigene	Mouse Unigene	Human tissue	Human cells	Mouse + Rat tissue	PGI II	Groups I, II (Literature) and III	ECS Algorithm Score			
Decorin (SEQ ID NO:52)	A1639233	Rn.3819	Hs.433989	Mm.56769	0	0	0	0	31.5	31.5			
metabotropic glutamate receptor (GluR1) (SEQ ID NO:53)	M61099	Rn.87787	Hs.32945	Mm.157764	0	6	0	6	25.5	31.5			
prostaglandin D synthase (SEQ ID NO:54)	J04488	Rn.11400	Hs.430637	Mm.1008	0	0	6	6	25.5	31.5			
gamma-aminobutyric acid A receptor, alpha 5 (SEQ ID NO:55)	X51992	Rn.10368	Hs.24969	Mm.261561	0	6	0	6	25	31			
aldehyde dehydrogenase (SEQ ID NO:56)	M73714	Rn.9113	Hs.159608	Mm.4210	10	0	0	10	20.6	30.6			
rx00909s Rattus norvegicus cDNA clone (SEQ ID NO:57)	A1638960	Rn.16596	NA	NA	0	0	12	12	17.3	29.3			
activin type I receptor (SEQ ID NO:58)	L19341	Rn.87899	Hs.150402	Mm.689	16	0	6	22	7.2	29.2			
growth factor (Arc) (SEQ ID NO:59)	U19866	Rn.10086	NA	Mm.25405	0	0	0	0	29	29			
Interferon-related developmental regulator 1 (SEQ ID NO:60)	A1014163	Rn.3723	Hs.7879	Mm.168	0	0	6	6	21.7	27.7			
neurtin (SEQ ID NO:61)	U88958	Rn.3546	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	27.7	27.7			
myr 6 myosin heavy chain (SEQ ID NO:62)	U60416	Rn.10640	NA	Mm.3536	0	0	0	0	26.7	26.7			
interferon gamma receptor (Ifngr) (SEQ ID NO:63)	U68272	Rn.19927	Hs.180866	Mm.549	0	6	0	6	20.1	26.1			
lost on transformation 1 (LOT1) (SEQ ID NO:64)	U72620	Rn.6977	Hs.75825	Mm.220978	8	12	0	20	6	26			
Synapsin 2 (SEQ ID NO:65)	M27925	Rn.506	Hs.6439	Mm.20892	10	0	0	10	16	26			

Gene Name (SEQ ID NO.)	Accession No.	Unigene number			PGI Data, Group II: Scores for gene overlaps with:			Algorithm Scores		
		Rat unigene	Human Unigene	Mouse Unigene	Human tissue	Human cells	Mouse + Rat tissue	PGI II	Groups I, II (Literature) and III	ECS Algorithm Score
DNAJ (Hsp40) homolog, subfamily B, member 5 (SEQ ID NO:66)	AA891542	Rn.4189	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	25.7	25.7
JE product (small inducible cytokine A2) (SEQ ID NO:67)	X17053	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	25.4	25.4
Activity and Neurotransmitter induced early gene 3; (ania-3) (SEQ ID NO:68)	AF030088	Rn.37500	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	24.9	24.9
matrilysin (Matrix metalloproteinase 7) (SEQ ID NO:69)	L24374	Rn.10282	Hs.2256	Mm.4825	8	12	0	20	4.3	24.3
3CH134/CL100 PTPase (SEQ ID NO:70)	S81478	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	24.3	24.3
Roaz (SEQ ID NO:71)	U92564	Rn.9981	Hs.137168	Mm.23452	10	0	0	10	14.3	24.3
EST194857 (SEQ ID NO:72)	AA891054	Rn.4287	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	24	24
EST 189694 Normalized rat heart (SEQ ID NO:73)	AA800197	Rn.3866	NA	NA	0	0	6	6	17	23
phospholipase D gene 2 (SEQ ID NO:74)	NM_033299	Rn.9798	Hs.104519	Mm.121970	0	0	0	0	23	23
tachykinin 2 (Neurokinin B precursor (NKB)) (SEQ ID NO:75)	M16410	Rn.9708	Hs.9730	Mm.2374	0	0	0	0	22.1	22.1
rx04104s (Neurd1) (SEQ ID NO:76)	A1639109	Rn.43903	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	21.8	21.8
EST190175 (atrophin-1 related protein) (SEQ ID NO:77)	AA800678	Rn.98495	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	21.5	21.5
solute carrier family 3, member 1 (SEQ ID NO:78)	M80804	Rn.11196	Hs.239106	Mm.227176	10	0	0	10	11.4	21.4

Gene Name (SEQ ID NO.)	Accession No.	Unigene number				PGI Data, Group II: Scores for gene overlaps with:			Algorithm Scores		
		Rat unigene	Human Unigene	Mouse Unigene	Human tissue	Human cells	Mouse + Rat tissue	PGI II	Groups I, II (Literature) and III	ECS Algorithm Score	
Neuron glucose transporter (SEQ ID NO:79)	D13962	Rn.95055	Hs.7594	Mm.3726	8	0	0	8	13	21	
flavin-containing monooxygenase 1 (SEQ ID NO:80)	M84719	Rn.867	Hs.1424	Mm.976	10	0	0	10	10.3	20.3	
SPA-1 like protein (SEQ ID NO:81)	A1237576	Rn.10835	Hs.172180	Mm.203907	16	0	0	16	4.2	20.2	
PP1M M110 (SEQ ID NO:82)	S74907	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	19.9	19.9	
BHF-1 (SEQ ID NO:83)	D82074	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	19	19	
leucine-rich acidic nuclear protein (SEQ ID NO:84)	D32209	Rn.10123	Hs.285013	Mm.613	8	6	0	14	5	19	
Nuclear receptor subfamily 4, group A, member 3 (NOR1) (SEQ ID NO:85)	A1176710	Rn.62694	Hs.80561	Mm.101224	8	0	0	8	10.8	18.8	
rx01019s Flattus norvegicus cDNA clone (SEQ ID NO:86)	A1639256	Rn.40672	NA	NA	0	0	6	6	12.8	18.8	
Isovaleryl Coenzyme A dehydrogenase (SEQ ID NO:87)	A1102838	Rn.147	Hs.374536	Mm.6635	0	0	0	0	18.4	18.4	
insulin-like growth factor II (somatomedin A) (SEQ ID NO:88)	X17012	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	17.8	17.8	
GADD153 (SEQ ID NO:89)	U30186	Rn.11183	Hs.400353	Mm.7549	0	0	0	0	17	17	
UI-R-E0-bs-h-03-0-UI.s1 UI-R-E0 Rattus norvegicus cDNA clone (SEQ ID NO:90)	AA859627	Rn.25	NA	NA	0	0	12	12	5	17	

Gene Name (SEQ ID NO.)	Accession No.	Unigene number			PGI Data, Group II: Scores for gene overlaps with:				Algorithm Scores		
		Rat unigene	Human Unigene	Mouse Unigene	Human tissue	Human cells	Mouse + Rat tissue	PGI II	Groups I, II (Literature) and III	ECS Algorithm Score	
Calvasculin: S100 calcium-binding protein A4 (SEQ ID NO:91)	X06916	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	16.8	16.8	
UI-R-A0-bd-e-03-0-UI.s1 UI-R-A0 Rattus norvegicus cDNA clone (SEQ ID NO:92)	AA866485	Rn.3018	NA	NA	0	0	6	6	10	16	
cyclic AMP-regulated phosphoprotein (SEQ ID NO:93)	S65091	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	15.8	15.8	
di-N-acetylchitinase (SEQ ID NO:94)	M95768	Rn.11199	Hs.135578	Mm.45396	10	0	0	10	5.8	15.8	
EST225243 (S100 calcium binding protein A1) (SEQ ID NO:95)	AI228548	Rn.11091	Hs.433503	Mm.24662	0	0	0	0	15.7	15.7	
mothers against dpp 3 homolog (SEQ ID NO:96)	U66479	Rn.10636	Hs.288261	Mm.7320	0	0	0	0	15.7	15.7	
CCAAT/enhancerbinding, protein (C/EBP) delta (SEQ ID NO:97)	M65149	Rn.6975	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	15.4	15.4	
EST196314 (tescalcin) (SEQ ID NO:98)	AA892511	Rn.14758	Hs.18791	Mm.26378	0	6	0	6	9.1	15.1	
EST220045 (SEQ ID NO:99)	AI176460	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	15	15	
Potassium voltage gated channel, Shal--related family member 2 (SEQ ID NO:100)	AI230211	Rn.10540	Hs.184889	Mm.56904	0	0	0	0	14.3	14.3	
transducin-like enhancer of split 1(Tie1) (SEQ ID NO:101)	AA875084	Rn.6875	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	14	14	
Glypican 1 (SEQ ID NO:102)	L02896	Rn.7044	Hs.2699	Mm.24193	0	0	0	0	13	13	

Gene Name (SEQ ID NO.)	Accession No.	Unigene number			PGI Data, Group II: Scores for gene overlaps with:			Algorithm Scores		
		Rat unigene	Human Unigene	Mouse Unigene	Human tissue	Human cells	Mouse + Rat tissue	PGI II	Groups I, II (Literature) and III	ECS Algorithm Score
chemokine CX3C (SEQ ID NO:103)	AF030358	Rn.4106	Hs.80420	Mm.103711	0	0	0	0	12.9	12.9
EST197009 (SEQ ID NO:104)	AA893206	Rn.3665	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	12.8	12.8
neuropilin (SEQ ID NO:105)	AF016296	Rn.10815	Hs.69285	Mm.27448	0	0	0	0	12.8	12.8
EST190350 (SEQ ID NO:106)	AA800853	Rn.36357	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	12.4	12.4
EST213163 (FK506 binding protein 3) (SEQ ID NO:107)	AI103874	Rn.1464	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	12	12
Protein-tyrosine phosphatase (Ptpn1, non- receptor type 1) (SEQ ID NO:108)	AI180145	Rn.11317	Hs.155894	Mm.259235	0	6	6	12	0	12
Ras homolog enriched in brain (SEQ ID NO:109)	A1009605	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	12	12
SH3-domain GRB2-like 1 (SEQ ID NO:110)	A1010110	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	12	12
DNA-damage-inducible transcript 1 (SEQ ID NO:111)	L32591	Rn.10250	Hs.80409	Mm.1236	0	6	0	6	5.8	11.8
Early growth response 1 (EGR1) (SEQ ID NO:112)	AI176662	Rn.9096	Hs.326035	Mm.181959	0	0	0	0	11.8	11.8
thymosin beta-10 (SEQ ID NO:113)	M58404	Rn.5983	Hs.76293	NA	8	0	0	8	3.8	11.8
Y box protein 1 (SEQ ID NO:114)	AI230572	Rn.3181	Hs.74497	Mm.21054	8	0	0	8	3.6	11.6
phosducin-like protein (SEQ ID NO:115)	L15354	Rn.51153	Hs.9302	Mm.30709	0	0	0	0	11.3	11.3
Ash-s (SEQ ID NO:116)	D49847	Rn.3360	Hs.381152	Mm.6900	0	0	0	0	11.2	11.2

Gene Name (SEQ ID NO.)	Accession No.	Unigene number				PGI Data, Group II: Scores for gene overlaps with:				Algorithm Scores			
		Rat unigene	Human Unigene	Mouse Unigene	Human tissue	Human cells	Mouse + Rat tissue	PGI II	Groups I, II (Literature) and III	ECS Algorithm Score			
connexin protein Cx26 (gap junction beta-2 protein) (SEQ ID NO:117)	X51615	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	11.2	11.2			
EST215655 (similar to G33) (SEQ ID NO:118)	A1169756	Rn.10581	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	10.7	10.7			
rx04422s Rattus norvegicus cDNA clone (SEQ ID NO:119)	A1639169	Rn.43195	Hs.296420	Mm.41508	0	0	6	6	4.6	10.6			
protein tyrosine phosphatase (P4a2) (SEQ ID NO:120)	AJ007016	Rn.1072	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	10.4	10.4			
EST195538 (SEQ ID NO:121)	AA891735	Rn.22703	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	10.3	10.3			
EST 197783 Normalized rat placenta (SEQ ID NO:122)	AA893980	Rn.7498	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	10	10			
rx04826s Rattus norvegicus cDNA clone (similar to Nedd4) (SEQ ID NO:123)	A1639058	Rn.20963	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	10	10			
UI-R-E0-ci-e-02-0-UI.s1 UI-R-E0 Rattus norvegicus cDNA clone (SEQ ID NO:124)	AA874943	Rn.4040	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	9.2	9.2			
EST 195383 Normalized rat kidney (SEQ ID NO:125)	AA891580	Rn.22698	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	9	9			
Transcription factor UBF(SEQ ID NO:126)	M61725	Rn.22469	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	8.8	8.8			
EST203592 (chromobox homolog 1) (SEQ ID NO:127)	A1009141	Rn.29900	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	8.7	8.7			
Lysyl oxidase (SEQ ID NO:128)	S77494	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	8.5	8.5			

Gene Name (SEQ ID NO.)	Accession No.	Unigene number				PGI Data, Group II: Scores for gene overlaps with:				Algorithm Scores		
		Rat unigene	Human Unigene	Mouse Unigene	Human tissue	Human cells	Mouse + Rat tissue	PGI II	Groups I, II (Literature) and III	ECS Algorithm Score		
beta-tubulin T beta15 (aa 1-445) (SEQ ID NO:129)	X03369	Rn.37849	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	8	8		
diacylglycerol kinase (SEQ ID NO:130)	S49760	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	7	7		
Small proline-rich protein gene (cornifin alpha) (SEQ ID NO:131)	AA891911	Rn.14720	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	6.9	6.9		
EST196165 (SEQ ID NO:132)	AA892362	Rn.14752	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	6.7	6.7		
EST106597 (SEQ ID NO:133)	H31990	Rn.22664	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	6.6	6.6		
heme oxygenase-3 (SEQ ID NO:134)	AF058787	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	6.5	6.5		
EST197625 (RAD52 homolog) (SEQ ID NO:135)	AA893822	Rn.8154	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	6.3	6.3		
protein kinase MNK2 (SEQ ID NO:136)	Z21935	Rn.92317	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	6.2	6.2		
rx00382s Rattus norvegicus cDNA clone (SEQ ID NO:137)	AI639155	Rn.96446	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	5.2	5.2		
SHB (Src homology 2 domain containing) adaptor protein B (SEQ ID NO:138)	AA859468	Rn.226	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	5.2	5.2		
Sodium-dependant neurotransmitter transporter (SEQ ID NO:139)	S56141	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	5	5		
UI-R-E0-bx-e-11-0-UI.s1 UI-R-E0 Rattus norvegicus cDNA clone (SEQ ID NO:140)	AA859690	Rn.51	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	4.7	4.7		

Gene Name (SEQ ID NO.)	Accession No.	Unigene number				PGI Data, Group II: Scores for gene overlaps with:			Algorithm Scores		
		Rat unigene	Human Unigene	Mouse Unigene	Human tissue	Human cells	Mouse + Rat tissue	PGI II	Groups I, II (Literature) and III	ECS Algorithm Score	
EST190198 (coagulation factor III) (SEQ ID NO:141)	AA800701	Rn.97659	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	4.4	4.4	
EST190228 (SEQ ID NO:142)	AA800731	Rn.6626	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	4.1	4.1	
EST197395 (reticulocalbin 2) (SEQ ID NO:143)	AA893592	Rn.98490	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	4.1	4.1	
nuclear pore complex protein Nup50 (SEQ ID NO:144)	U41845	Rn.3242	Hs.367697	Mm.28379	0	0	0	0	3.9	3.9	
clathrin, light polypeptide (LCB) (SEQ ID NO:145)	AA874955	Rn.3440	Hs.380749	Mm.36879	0	0	0	0	3.8	3.8	
NAC-1 protein (SEQ ID NO:146)	AF015911	Rn.94891	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	3.8	3.8	
beta defensin-1 (SEQ ID NO:147)	AF068860	Rn.31800	NA	Mm.5341	0	0	0	0	3.7	3.7	
voltage-dependent potassium channel; (shaker-related subfamily) (SEQ ID NO:148)	X12589	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	3.5	3.5	
rx00967s Rattus norvegicus cDNA clone (SEQ ID NO:149)	A1639015	Rn.28835	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	3.1	3.1	
Beta-carotene 15, 15'- dioxygenase (SEQ ID NO:150)	A1014135	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	2.9	2.9	
BRL-3A binding protein (SEQ ID NO:151)	A09811	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	2.9	2.9	
potassium voltage gated channel, shaker related subfamily, member 4 (SEQ ID NO:152)	M32867	Rn.9884	Hs.1854	Mm.142718	0	0	0	0	2.7	2.7	

9. REFERENCES CITED

Numerous references, including patents, patent applications and various publications, are cited and discussed in the description of this invention. The citation and/or discussion of such references is provided merely to clarify the description of the present invention and is not an admission that any such reference is “prior art” to the invention described here. All references cited and/or discussed in this specification (including references, *e.g.*, to biological sequences or structures in the GenBank, PDB or other public databases) are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety and to the same extent as if each reference was individually incorporated by reference.